Trade and Industry

28 March 1975 15p

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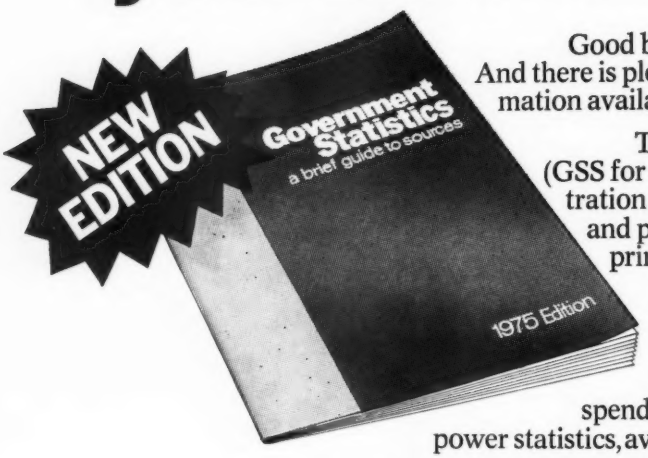

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Trade and Industry

28 March 1975

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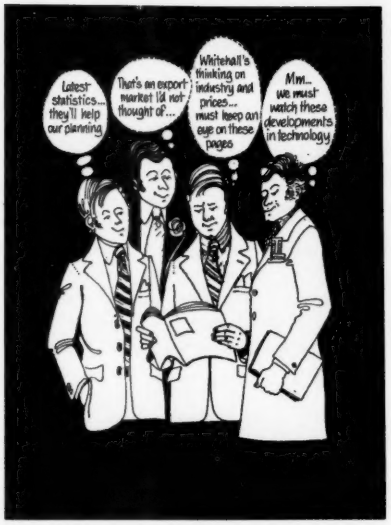
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Official statistics covering a wide range of subjects of interest to those engaged in industry and commerce are published each week in 'Trade and Industry'. As well as regular features, such as the weekly selected indicators on the economy and the monthly trade figures and wholesale price indices, occasional major in-depth statistical surveys are published. At the back of the journal is an index to statistics published regularly.

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Home News

Timetable for public ownership of shipbuilding industry 'getting clearer'

'The timetable for the public ownership of the shipbuilding industry is now getting clearer,' said Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, on 24 March when addressing a conference on shipbuilding held by the General and Municipal Workers Union in Newcastle.

'The consultations have been going on since last July,' said Mr. Benn, 'and I have now made a statement about the companies to be taken into public ownership and the compensation terms.

'In my statement I made it clear that I would be ready to receive representations from anybody, including the trade unions, about the valuation of the shares to be taken over under the legislation and also would be ready to convey these representations to the arbitrator in the event of arbitration being necessary.

'This represents a modest innovation in compensation arrangements and I am grateful to the General and Municipal Workers for proposing an assessment board on compensation, from which I have drawn the idea of receiving and transmitting representations to the arbitrator.

'We have now had a number of meetings with the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and the Bill should be published next month. When the Second Reading has taken place an Organising Committee will be set up charged with the responsibility for preparing to bring this industry into public ownership and consulting with the trade union movement at every stage.

'I have suggested to the Confederation that the trade unions might set up a parallel structure to make this consultation possible.

'We must now look forward to the vesting of the shipbuilding industry in public ownership sometime in the first half of the next year.'

Of the issues which Mr. Benn considered to be most important, he said: 'First, we are agreed that public ownership has got to succeed. We cannot afford to repeat the failures of the past this time.

'Second, we have got to see to it that the public ownership of the shipbuilding industry does not mean leaving the industry to be run in the same way with little more than a new name on the door. It has got to be led in a different way, by people who are committed to the success of the industry within the public sector.

'Third, we agree that there must be adequate operational autonomy for the yards in the industry. But we must also be clear that by arranging for this autonomy we are not going to allow a situation to develop in which a decentralised industry is waiting for some future government to denationalise it. Anyone who thinks that urging decentralisation will pave the way for the unscrambling of public ownership is in for a shock.

'The way in which public ownership can be made permanent is not by having a heavily over-centralised head office remote from the work in the yards but by extending and changing the relationships between the trade unions and management in the yards so that the genius of those who work in this industry can be really and permanently released.

'Fourth, the trade union role must be expanded to take account of the real change in power relationships that we are seeking to achieve. This will necessarily pose a real challenge to the workers and their trade union representatives at yard level, from whom the key response must come.

'In the absence of that response the shipbuilding industry will inevitably continue under the old system with nothing more than a new name plate on the door. Moreover, if this happens, the industry will fail to realise its possibilities and public ownership will be blamed for the failures of the past.

'We must all hope that the different unions in the yards will now sit down and find a basis for working together to overcome such divisions as have existed in the past, which may weaken the influence of those who work in the industry.

'We must also hope that the trade union representatives at yard level will see to it that they maintain the closest contact with the national unions representing them, and with the Confederation, since the Confederation and its member unions are bound to be intimately concerned in the future planning of the industry.

'This unity is essential if industrial democracy is to develop. A great deal has been said about industrial democracy and this Government is deeply committed to promote it.

'But it is one thing to promote it and another to force it on to workers.

'Industrial democracy must grow naturally out of the awareness and response and aspirations of those who work in the industry and it must grow organically.

'I see it as the role of the Government, and of the organising committee and the board and the unions themselves to stimulate and encourage and support moves by workers in the industry to hammer out their own proposals for the structure of the industry and the injection of a genuinely democratic element into the management pattern.'

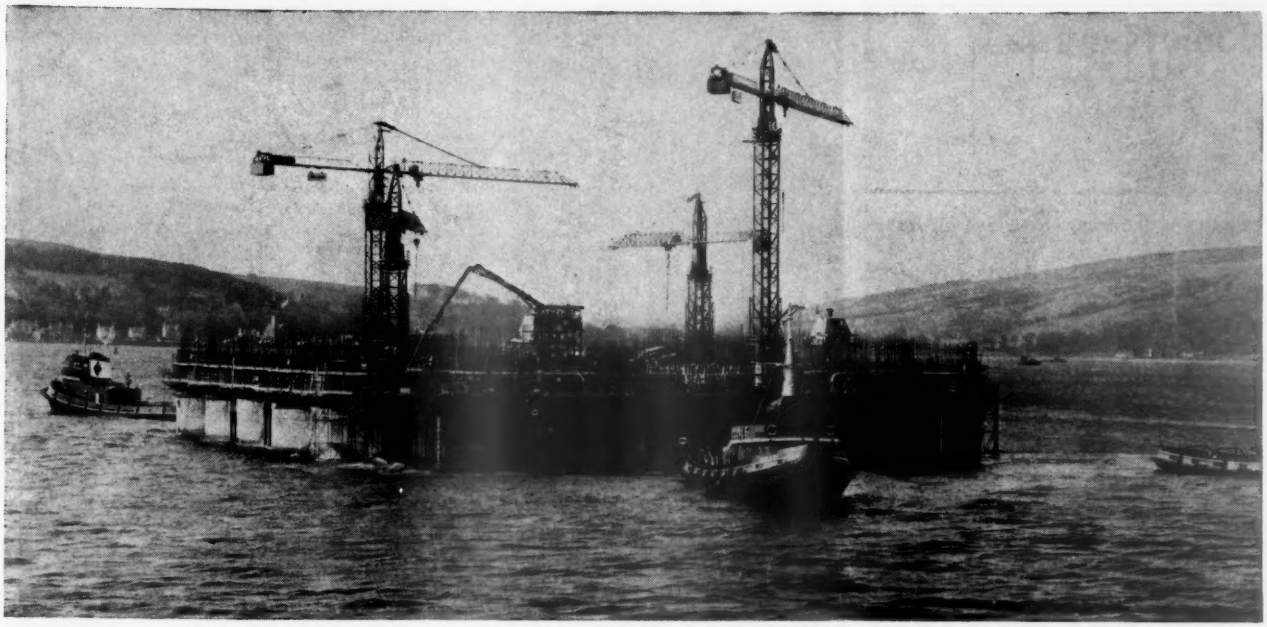
Tony Benn announces latest Concorde development costs

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, told the House of Commons on 24 March that the latest estimated cost of developing the Concorde was £1,096 million – in real terms, a little under £40 million less than last year's estimate.

Mr. Benn was answering a Question by Mr. Terry Walker (Kingswood). He further said that this resulted from a re-examination of the programme. 'The new estimates of £1,096 million, calculated at January 1975 economic conditions, includes additions of about £50 million due to general inflation in Britain and France and £15 million due to changes in exchange rates. The new figure is divided as follows between actual past expenditure and estimated future expenditure:

£ million

	British Government	French Government	Both Governments
Actual costs from 29 November 1962 to 31 December 1974 at prices and exchange rates prevailing when the costs were incurred	436	417 (5,353 million francs)	853
Estimated costs from 1 January 1975 to completion of programme at January 1975 prices and at an exchange rate of £1 = 10.25 French francs	112	131 (1,343 million francs)	243
Totals	548	548 (6,696 million francs)	1,096



With an all-up weight of almost 40,000 tonnes, the base caisson of Sea-Mac 1, Britain's first North Sea concrete gravity structure, is pictured being successfully floated-out from Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons construction basin at Ardyne Point, Argyll. Sea-going tugs manoeuvred the 72 metres square, 25-cell reinforced concrete structure some 200 metres offshore into the Firth of Clyde. A pontoon jetty is now being assembled to connect with Sea-Mac 1 and enable completion of the platform in deep water. The platform, when completed, will be towed to the Frigg field in the North Sea to form part of the Elf-Aquitaine Group complex designed to extract and process North Sea gas.

Government aid for Bear Brand

Eric Heffer, Minister of State, Department of Industry, announced on 20 March that Bear Brand, which manufactures tights and hosiery in Liverpool and employs 400, had asked the Government for assistance to help them overcome their current liquidity difficulties and for certain essential modernisation.

The Industrial Development Advisory Board concluded that the chances of assistance securing a long-term viable future for the company were remote.

The Government took full account of this advice but decided that in view of the high level of unemployment in Liverpool, assistance should be provided under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 by way of a loan up to a maximum of £350,000.

Eric Deakins to visit Latin America

Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under- Secretary of State for Trade, is to visit Panama, Ecuador, Peru and Colombia between 31 March and 11 April.

Mr. Deakins' official engagements will begin in Panama City on 1 April with calls on the Panamanian authorities and meetings with commercial and industrial organisations. During his three-day stay he will visit the Colon Free Zone and the Panama Canal Zone.

On 4 April Mr. Deakins will arrive in Ecuador for a two-day visit to Quito and Guayaquil for discussions with Government Ministers and Ecuadorean and British businessmen.

While in Peru from 6 April to 9 April, Mr. Deakins will meet representatives of the Peruvian Government and State industrial entities and British and Peruvian businessmen. He will also call on the Andean Pact Junta and meet Commercial Secretaries from British Embassies in neighbouring Andean countries.

Mr. Deakins' tour ends with two days in Colombia. On 10 April, he will address a businessmen's lunch given by the Anglo-Colombian Society in Bogota. On the following day, after making official calls, Mr. Deakins will open new extensions to the plant of Glaxo de Colombia SA before departing for London.

Trade between Britain and the countries to be visited has been as follows:

£ million

	UK exports to		UK imports from	
	1973	1974	1973	1974
Panama (including Canal Zone)	11.5	13.7	2.3	0.8
Ecuador	11.8	13.6	2.3	2.2
Peru	14.2	21.9	19.1	35.8
Colombia	15.5	24.2	9.7	12.5

Waste paper collections

Problems currently facing waste paper merchants, collectors and paper mills because of the recent low demand for finished paper and board products were emphasised at the meeting on 21 March of the Government's Advisory Group on Waste Paper Recycling under the chairmanship of Michael Meacher, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry.

The Group discussed the outlines of a possible buffer stocks scheme for waste paper directed towards smoothing out the cyclical nature of the market. They also considered the economic benefits which might arise both for the country and the industry from such a scheme and a report on waste paper collections by local authorities. Further work on both these subjects will be carried out by sub-groups before the next meeting of the Advisory Group in April.

Customs facilities at Aberdeen airport

Aberdeen airport is to be designated a customs airport from 1 April, and customs facilities will be provided free of charge during specified hours.

This is the effect of an Order made by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, with the concurrence of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise. The facilities have become necessary because of the airport's

increasing traffic from North Sea oil operations.

The Order – the Civil Aviation (Customs Airports) (Aberdeen) Order 1975 – is made under Article 78(1) of the Air Navigation Order 1974 (HMSO, price 4p).

Flight time limitations

New measures for avoiding crew fatigue in public transport aircraft were announced in Parliament on 25 March by Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping. The measures follow acceptance by the Civil Aviation Authority of recommendations made by the Committee on Flight Time Limitations.

An Order laid on 25 March details the operator's responsibilities and requires him to establish a scheme approved by the Authority for regulating flight times and to maintain an up-to-date record of flight times.

Crew members will be prohibited from flying if they have reason to believe they are likely to suffer from such fatigue as may endanger the aircraft and will be required to ensure that the operator is aware of their flight times during the 28 days preceding the flight.

A flight crew member will not only be prohibited from flying if, during the period of the 28-days expiring on the day of the flight, his flight times exceed 100 hours, but also if, during the period of the preceding 12 months, his flight times exceed 900 hours.

Increase in marine survey fees

The Department of Trade is introducing revised fees for a wide variety of surveys carried out on ships and their equipment under the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Acts and International Conventions. There will also be an increase in the fees for marine examinations. The new rates will come into effect from 1 April 1975. Marine examination fees have not been increased since 1967, and marine survey fees have not been increased since 1971.

Before introducing the new scale of fees the Department consulted the various interested parties including shipowners and seafarers.

Copies of the regulations – The Merchant Shipping (Fees) Regulations 1975 (SI 1975/341) – are available from HMSO (Price 22½p). A revised edition of the Department's publication 'Fees for Marine Surveys and other marine services' will be available from 1 April (price 59p).

Metrication and standards officials from Malaysia – pictured during a three-week visit to Britain – having a discussion with Lord Orr-Ewing, chairman of the Metrication Board, when they visited the Board's London headquarters. The Malaysian officials are (seated from left): Tunku Tan Sri Mohamed bin Tunku Besar Burhanuddin, president, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers; Ho Thian Hock, director, Design and Research Division, Public Works Department; Tanggalingam Mahalingam, head, Metrication Unit and deputy director, Ministry of Trade and Industry; Ng Aik Pheng, standards development officer (metrication), Standards Institute of Malaysia, and Tan Tong Teck, director, Defence Research Centre, Ministry of Defence. With them (left) is P. J. L. Holman, director, Metrication Board.

Price Commission's interim report on motor fuel retailers' margins

A report by the Price Commission on Motor Fuel Retailers' Margins was published on 20 March (HMSO 35p).

The Commission undertook the study of the level and adequacy of retail margins in the motor fuel trade at the request of the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, who has decided that the interim results, reported to her in February, should be published.

The report is based on interviews by consultants of a sample of independent motor fuel retailers and on figures for filling stations owned and operated by the major oil companies themselves; and it compares profit margins in the summer quarter of 1973 and in the same quarter in 1974. It then discusses the effect on margins of the large price increase which took place in December 1974 and of the removal of statutory price control.

The interim conclusions in the report are:

1 Motor fuel retailers' margins were, in general, not unreasonable – at around 10½ per cent gross, and 2.3 per cent net – in the summer quarter of 1974; net margins at this level showed a marked improvement upon those prevailing a year earlier.
2 The large increase in motor fuel prices in December 1974 resulted in an increase in gross margins in cash terms but probably a small fall in percentage terms. The net result was almost certainly an improvement in percentage net margins, bringing them to about the 2½ per cent level.
3 Where price increases occur at relatively long intervals and are then large in amount, net margins immediately following a price increase may be higher than normal but may be expected to decline steadily during the period between one price increase and the next.
4 Since December 1974, average net margins will have declined from the levels then achieved. The extent of decline will depend primarily on the trend of sales.

An addendum to the report comments on the effects of the widespread price cutting of motor fuel which has been reported since it was completed.

The Commission's final report will contain more detailed analyses of the evidence collected.

The reference to the Price Commission was originally made on 31 July 1974 but following the abolition of statutory maximum retail prices for motor fuel the terms of the reference were revised. The revised

terms of reference were announced in the House of Commons on 23 January 1975 in a written answer by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection as follows:

'Pursuant to paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 1 to the Counter-Inflation Act 1973, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection instructs the Price Commission to examine and report on the level and adequacy of margins and discounts accruing to retailers from sales of motor fuel. The reference dated 31 July 1974 is withdrawn.'

Summer 'Save It' campaign will urge preparation for winter

The next phase of the Government's 'Save It' energy conservation campaign will aim to encourage people to face next winter fully prepared, said Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, in London on 20 March.

Addressing chairmen of the Electricity Consultative Councils, at the Department of Energy, Mr. Eadie said: 'Now, of course, we are moving towards the summer and with any luck a period of warm weather in which energy savings will hardly be uppermost in people's minds.

'We shall, therefore, be encouraging people to prepare for next winter – summer is the time for installing roof insulation, hot water tank lagging and so on. At the same time, private motoring increases during summer and we will, therefore, continue to appeal to motorists to drive sensibly and keep their vehicles mechanically efficient.'

On electricity prices, Mr. Eadie said: 'We have to pay particular regard in present circumstances to the small and poor consumers. The Government is trying to ensure that price increases will not make life more uncomfortable for the less fortunate. At our request the industry's next price increases will be weighted to mitigate the impact on the smaller consumer.'

Mr Eadie noted that the Electricity Consultative Councils were completing their Silver Jubilee year and told the chairmen: 'We can all take great pride in the contribution which you and your predecessors have made over these 25 years towards better mutual understanding between consumers and the industry.'

Patents and Designs (Amendment) Rules

The Patents (Amendment) Rules 1975, published on 21 March, increase all fees due on or after 24 May 1975 except the application fee.

The fee payable for sealing a patent in respect of which the complete specification was accepted on or after 24 March 1975 but before 24 May 1975, and the renewal fee in respect of any year beginning on or after 24 May 1975, were increased on 24 March 1975.

Copies of the new Rules (SI 1975 No. 371) may be obtained from the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RD, from the Sale Counter, Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AY and from HM Stationery Office at the usual addresses price 12p (by post 17½p).

The Designs (Amendment) Rules 1975, published on 21 March, increase all fees due on or after 24 May 1975.

The fee for the extension of the period of copyright in a design paid in advance in respect of any period beginning on or after 24 May 1975 was increased on 24 March 1975.

Copies of the new Rules (SI 1975 No. 372) may be obtained from the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent, BR5 3RD, from the Sale Counter, Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AY and from HM Stationery Office at the usual addresses price 12 p (by post 17½p).

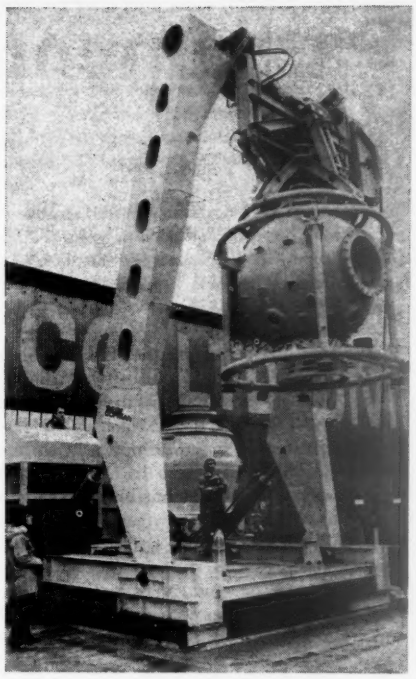
Pipeline application to proceed

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, has agreed that BP and ICI may advertise their joint proposal to construct a 10-in. nominal diameter cross-country pipeline about 155 miles long between ICI's Wilton works and BP Chemical's Grangemouth works.

The proposed pipeline will be part of a project to expand olefins manufacturing capacity at Wilton, and will be used to transfer ethylene between Wilton and Grangemouth.

The Pipe-lines Act, 1962 states that the Secretary of State for Energy's permission must be obtained before an application to construct a pipeline may proceed. The Act requires applicants to advertise their proposals so that individuals may, if they wish, raise objections with the Secretary of State. Applicants are also required to serve a notice of their pipeline proposals to all local planning authorities concerned.

Olefins are a class of hydrocarbon chemical used in plastics and synthetic fibre manufacture. Ethylene is a basic chemical from which most other petro-chemicals are derived.



New deep saturation diving complex built by Siebe Gorman and Company Ltd., Chessington Surrey. The equipment is designed to carry out deep saturation of 'bounce' diving operations, submarine one atmosphere rescue and undersea one atmosphere observation to a working depth of 200 metres (656 feet) from a ship-borne over-stern location. The two-compartment compression chamber is mounted on a system of deck rails to enable it to be moved fore and aft as required for attachment to the submersible compression chamber for diving, or for use with the submarine rescue module. The photo shows the new diving complex being hoisted during a recent demonstration.

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before her, not to refer the following mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

1 Arthur Bell and Sons Ltd./Canning Town Glass Works Ltd. (proposed merger).
2 Alco Metropolitan Properties Ltd./ controlling interest in Scotia Investments Ltd.
3 EMI Ltd. and bingo interests of Star Associated Holdings Ltd. (proposed merger).

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade ond Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Parliament

Monday, 17 March

Metrication and consumer protection

Mr. Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) asked for a statement from the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection on the progress of metrication as it affects the responsibilities of her department.

'The Metrication programme has now been under way for 10 years,' said Mrs. Williams. 'I hope that all those parts of industry which have yet to complete the change will review their programmes in consultation with the Metrication Board. In those fields where there is direct Government responsibility I shall be aiming to ensure faster progress. But in doing so I shall pay particular regard to the need to protect the interests of the poor and the elderly during the change. In particular the Metrication Board has commissioned a report on the problems of the elderly from the Tavistock Institute.'

Mrs. Ann Taylor (Bolton West) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection is satisfied with the control on price increases taking place at the same time as the changeover to metric weights and measurements.

Mr. Williams replied: 'So far yes. But I am keeping a close watch on the situation assisted by the Metrication Board.'

Mobile consumer advice centres

Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked how many local authorities are providing mobile consumer advice centres and what steps are being taken to extend the use of consumer advice centre mobile vehicles operating over a wide area on a rota basis.

Mr. Williams answered: 'According to the latest information available to me, six local authorities are providing mobile consumer advice centres. The extent to which the service is provided in this way is a matter for local authorities to decide taking into consideration the particular circumstances of their area and bearing in mind their financial situation and the Government guidance on expenditure on consumer advice services.'

Food prices

Mr. Douglas Hurd (Mid Oxon) wanted to know which main foodstuffs imported into the UK are now either markedly cheaper or markedly more expensive than they would be if the UK were outside the EEC.

Mrs. Williams said: 'Taking account of EEC financed subsidies, most imported cereals and sugar are cheaper than if we were not a member.

'Some dairy products and some imports on which duties are now charged, such as lamb and certain canned products, are probably somewhat more expensive than if we were not a member.'

Questions were also asked by Mr. Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire), Sir Anthony Meyer (West Flint) and Mr. Ralph Howell (North Norfolk) on the effect of British membership of the EEC on food prices in the UK.

Mrs. Williams answered: 'Following the decisions of the last Council of Agricultural Ministers and the transitional steps taken so far, the overall level of food prices in the UK is not at present significantly affected one way or the other by our membership of the European community. Continuity of supply is obviously advantageous in avoiding shortages and wide fluctuations in price, though it cannot be accurately quantified.'

Mr. Neil Marten (Banbury) asked for a list of subsidised foods, showing the prices with and without the subsidy, and the extent to which the subsidies are provided direct by the UK or via EEC.

Mr. Maclennan gave the following information on the basis of data collected for the purposes of the General Index of Retail Prices on 14 January 1975:

Pence

	Average retail price	Estimated average retail price without subsidy
Bread: white 1½ lb wrapped and sliced loaf	14	17
white 14 oz. loaf	9½	11½
Butter, UK, per lb	27	36
Cheddar cheese, per lb	40½	52½
Flour: self-raising, per 3 lb	19½	22½
Liquid milk, per pint	5	7½
Tea, medium priced, per ¼ lb	9	11

Mr. Maclennan continued: '13.5 per cent of the butter subsidy was contributed from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, the remainder of the expenditure being borne by the Exchequer. As from 3 March the butter subsidy was increased to the equivalent of 11p per lb. at the retail level, and the EEC contribution was raised to 20.6 per cent.'

Retail price index

Questions on the retail price index were asked by Mr. John Wakeham (Maldon) and Mr. Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford).

'The retail price index rose 19.9 per cent between January 1974 and January 1975,' said Mrs. Williams. 'The increase over the three months to January expressed at an annual rate was 25.9 per cent which reflects the exceptional increases in sugar and petrol which took place in December and January.'

Mr. Mike Thomas (Newcastle upon Tyne East) asked if the cost of living index for retirement pensioners and the poor and low-paid had risen faster or more slowly than the index for the average wage earner during 1974.

Mr. Maclennan answered that the retail price indices for one-person and two-person pensioner households rose 18.4 per cent and 18.2 per cent respectively between the fourth quarter of 1973 and the fourth quarter of 1974. The general retail price index, on a comparable basis, rose by 19.4 per cent. No official indices are available for the poor or low-paid.

Inflation

Mr. Peter Morrison (City of Chester) asked about arrangements in the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection for evaluating trends in inflation.

'My department is closely involved with other Whitehall departments in evaluating trends in inflation both in this country and overseas,' said Mr. Maclennan.

Fish prices

Mr. Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull, Central) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what consultations took place between her department and the Hull trawler owners before the new reserve price for fish on the Hull market was raised by 70 per cent to a minimum of £13 a kit, an increase of £5.

'None,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'The matter was raised with the Ministry of Agriculture,

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Ministers of State: Eric Heffer
Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Fisheries and Food, the sponsor Department for the fish industry in England and Wales. The new reserve price remains below the average level of prices at the quayside so the increase should not affect retail prices. My Rt. Hon. Friend is proposing to ask the Price Commission to undertake a study of prices and margins in the distribution of fish. An announcement will be made shortly about the scope of the study.'

Price Code

Mrs. Renée Short (Wolverhampton North East) asked if the practice of re-pricing foods or goods on shelves had ended.

'Judging by the dramatic reduction in the number of complaints received, it seems that the Price Code provisions on this practice are generally being observed well,' said Mr. Williams.

Mr. Michael O'Halloran (Islington North) asked about plans for introducing new legislation on hidden price rises.

'I am satisfied that the provisions of the Price Code are adequate,' replied Mr. Williams. 'However, I am always willing to reconsider the position in the light of any new developments which may be brought to my attention.'

Bakers

Mr. Alistair Goodlad (Northwich) asked if the regulations governing discounts granted by bakers to wholesale customers would be amended.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend has no proposals at present for amending the arrangements introduced on 13 January, but we shall continue to keep their operation under close review.'

Mr. Peter Horden (Horsham and Crawley) asked for the operation of margin control for bakers to be reviewed.

Mr. Maclennan said: 'The only controls over bakers' margins are those contained in the general Provisions of the Price Code. This has recently been reviewed, and a number of amendments were made which should be of special benefit to the baking industry.'

Social Contract

Mr. Neil MacFarlane (Sutton and Cheam) and Mr. Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection is satisfied with the working of the Social Contract as it relates directly to her ministerial responsibility for controlling prices.

Mr. Williams replied: 'In fulfilling the requirements of the Contract for the Consumer, the Government have contributed significantly towards curbing costs of primary concern to the poorer members of the community. But pay has over the past year been rising much faster than prices and the TUC recognise that there is little room for increases in real earnings if the Government is to be able to continue its contribution on other sides of the Contract.'

Consultant on food values

Mr. Patrick Cormack (South West Staffordshire) asked for a statement on the nature of the work of the consultant on food values.

Mr. Maclennan said: 'Miss Louise Davies has been appointed for six months on an experimental basis to provide regular public information about what foods are currently plentiful and offer good value, how to judge quality, and how these foods may be used to the best advantage.'

Mrs. Joyce Butler (Haringey, Wood Green) asked if the consultant on food values has examined the food values of advertised slimming foods.

'No,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'As the Hon. Lady knows, the Food Standards Committee is considering whether any change is needed in the regulations which control slimming claims made for food. In the course of their review the Committee will no doubt be considering whether there is a case for specifying minimum nutritional standards for slimming foods.'

Public appointments

Mrs. Renée Short (Wolverhampton North-East) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection keeps a list of possible nominees for public bodies and committees to which she is entitled to nominate; how many names are now before here; and how many of them are women.

In making public appointments, I am anxious to secure the people best fitted for the jobs in question,' answered Mrs. Williams. 'One aid to this is to take note of people with appropriate qualifications and experience and it is always useful to hear of individual names. I am at present actively seeking possible nominees for appointments to consumer bodies, a high proportion of whom will, I hope, be women.'

Contraceptive sheaths

Mr. Marcus Lipton (Lambert, Central) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to take action following the report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission that in 1974 a British manufacturing firm sold on the home market 842,000 gross of contraceptive sheaths at a profit on sales of 43 per cent.

Mr. Williams said: 'The Commission's figure of 43 per cent for profit on home sales related to the year ending 31 March 1973. I announced on 6 February the action I intended to take and at my request the Office of Fair Trading is in touch with the manufacturer concerned with a view to obtaining undertakings to reduce prices as the Commission recommended.'

Trading stamps

Mr. Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, how many representatives on trading stamps she had received during 1975.

Mr. Williams said: 'Six.'

Company registrations

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would seek powers to enable the Companies Registration Office to amend the name of a registered company without charging the statutory fee under the Companies Act 1948, when the change of name of the company is a direct consequence of the official respelling of a geographical location forming part of the company's registered title.

'No Sir,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'If the change of name is a voluntary one on the part of the company it would be unfair that the cost of registration of change of name should fall on the taxpayer. The amount in question is £40.'

Ship's names

Mr. R. Bonner Pink (Portsmouth South) asked on how many occasions, in each of the last five years, objections have been made to a change of a ship's name as a result of advertisements in daily and other publications, respectively; and what was the tonnage of the ship and the number of objections in each case.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied that files on changes of ships' names are only kept for two years and do not necessarily distinguish between daily and other publications. He gave the following available information:

	Objections received	Size of ship
	Daily or other publications	Tons gross
1973	4	64 11 12 15
1974	0	
1975 (to date)	0	

Short Brothers and Harland

Mr. Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury) wanted to know HM Government's current financial involvement in Short Brothers and Harland Ltd.; how much financial assistance is being provided for production of the SD-330; and how much financial assistance is being provided for guided weapons work.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The Government directly owns 69½ per cent of the issued share capital of £2.63 million of Short Brothers and Harland Ltd. Provision has been made for loans totalling £14 million of which £1.4 million remains to be drawn.

'No direct Government assistance has been provided for production of the SD-330. The Government has however agreed to invest £4.25 million (October 1972 prices) towards the development of the project, and has acted as guarantor for a loan of £2.5 million towards these costs that the company has obtained from the European Investment Bank.

'The Ministry of Defence has placed contracts with the company for guided weapons work. It is not the practice however to reveal the kind of information requested.'

Aerospace

Mr. McNair-Wilson asked what has been the Government's financial contribution to research and development in the aerospace industry since 1970; how much of this money has been spent on civil and how much on defence projects; how much has gone to the British Aircraft Corporation, to Hawker Siddeley Aviation, to Hawker Siddeley Dynamics and to Rolls-Royce, respectively; and what return the industry had made either in taxation or in levy repayments.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The Government contributed £615 million to research and development in the aerospace industry in the financial years 1970/71 to 1973/74. Defence projects accounted for approximately 45 per cent of this, the remainder being civil projects (mainly Concorde and the RB211 engine). The records of Government expenditure in industry do not readily distinguish, for individual firms, between payments for research and development and payments for production. Thus, although broad estimates have been made of research and development expenditure in the aerospace industry, accurate figures in the detail

requested could only be obtained at disproportionate cost. Levy payments received by the Government from the aerospace industry in the financial years 1970/71 to 1973/74 totalled £14 million on the civil side. The corresponding military figure is not readily available and cannot be obtained without disproportionate effort. Separate records of taxation payments by the aerospace industry are not kept. The amounts of corporation tax paid by companies in the aerospace industry can be obtained from their published accounts.'

Diesel generating sets for Namibia

Mr. David Steel (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would publish the advice given by his department to Mirrlees Blackstone Ltd. when they applied for permission to export diesel generating sets to be installed in a new power station being built at Walvis Bay, Namibia.

Mr. Deakins said: 'The question of permission does not arise since export licences are not required in trade with Namibia, and with the Republic of South Africa including Walvis Bay.'

Valves

Mr. Peter Hardy (Rother Valley) asked what factors inhibit, or are likely to inhibit, the export of British manufactured valves to other EEC countries.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'I am not aware of anything, apart from purely commercial considerations and standards requirements, inhibiting such exports. After much detailed work by the European Standards Committee, in which the UK played an active role, there is prospect now of agreement on harmonised European standards in this sector which will help our exporters.'

Mr. Hardy also asked for the value of exports from British valve manufacturers and the value of imported valves during each of the last three years.

Mr. Deakins gave the following information for industrial valves:

£ million

	Exports fob	Imports cif
1972	49.0	14.9
1973	48.3	18.6
1974	63.0	22.6

Mr. Hardy also asked if the Secretary of Industry is satisfied that the British valve manufacturing industry has been able to meet home demand and achieve satisfactory exports in recent years.

'The annual turnover of the British valve industry is some £130 million of which exports are nearly £50 million,' said Mr. Meacher. 'Imports have risen to an annual rate of about £22 million in 1974.'

Mr. Hardy asked about consultations between the Department of Industry and the British valve manufacturing industry; and about further consultations with a view to ensuring that both home needs are met and increasing exports achieved.

Mr. Meacher said: 'My Department is in touch with the British valve manufacturing industry and with its trade association, discussions have been held with firms in the valve sector to discuss with them their future prospects. We will continue discussions where these are necessary.'

ECGD and the Industry Act

Mr. Geoffrey Dodsworth (South-West Hertfordshire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade to outline the criteria applicable in deciding whether a Government guarantee should be provided with the approval of the Export Credit Guarantee Department or under the Industry Act 1972.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The operation of the Industry Act is a matter for my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Industry. The criteria for ECGD Guarantees involve the exercise of ECGD's underwriting judgments. Guarantees are given either under Section 1 of the Department's Acts where, after consultation with the Export Guarantees Advisory Council, the business is accepted as "commercial", or, under Section 2, if business is considered to be in the "national interest'."

Anglo-Iranian trade

Mr. Christopher Tugendhat (The City of London and Westminster South) asked by what date the ships covered by the Anglo-Iranian trade agreements must be delivered to Iran; and whether the UK is liable to penalty payments if that deadline is not met, or whether the contract lapses; how many ships and of what types and tonnages, are to be supplied to Iran under the terms of the agreement; and how many ships and of what types and tonnages to be supplied to Iran under the terms of the agreement are to be built in the UK; and how many and of what types and tonnages will be vessels already in use.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'During his visit to Tehran in January 1975 my Rt. Hon. Friend, the Secretary of State for Trade, negotiated an outline agreement for the supply to Iran of 15 general cargo ships, each of 18-20,000 tons deadweight. A delegation from the UK shipbuilding industry, led by a senior official from my Department, went to Tehran on 28 February for discussions with the Iranian Government and the Arya National Shipping Line. At the conclusion of the discussions Arya confirmed their intention to order these 15 ships from UK shipbuilders, subject to agreement on the detailed specification, prices, and delivery dates. It will not be possible to give more information until the further negotiations, which will take several weeks, have been successfully concluded. I understand that in addition to these new ships Arya may be interested in purchasing existing ships and are in touch with UK shipbrokers. The Government is not involved in this aspect of their requirements.'

Employment in the shirt industry

Mr. Tom Normanton (Cheadle) inquired the number of shirt manufacturing establishments in Great Britain working on short time; how many people are affected; and for an estimate of the effects of low-cost shirt imports on the employment prospects in the industry.

Mr. Meacher said: 'Official statistics do not make it possible to identify the number of shirt manufacturing establishments at present on short time, or the number of people affected. Nor it is possible to distinguish the effects of low-cost imports on employment prospects from those of the downturn in home and overseas demand. I hope that, so far as home sales are concerned, the impending Community negotiations with the main overseas suppliers of low-cost shirts will result in quite small future growth in imports into the UK, so as to give the industry a stable situation in which to plan its own production and employment.'

Tuesday, 18 March

DPCP expenditure powers

Mr. Geoffrey Dodsworth (South West Hertfordshire) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to list the individual limits of expenditure powers obtained by her department by means of legislation or affirmative order in the past 12 months.

Mrs. Williams answered: 'The Prices Act (1974), which received the Royal Assent on 9 July 1974, authorised the expenditure of up to £700 million on food subsidies. Under the Prices Bill now before Parliament this limit would be raised to £1,200 million, with provision for a further increase to £1,700 million after 31 March 1976, subject to Affirmative Resolution.'

RB211

Mr. Geoffrey Pattie (Chertsey and Walton) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, whether the sums being spent with Rolls Royce in order to adapt the -524 version of the RB211 for use in the Lockheed TriStar preclude further sums being advanced to adapt the engine for the 747 jumbo jet.

'No Sir'. Mr. Meacher answered. 'The Government is fully committed to support the development of the RB211-524 for the TriStar. In my Rt. Hon. Friend's statement in the House on 5 December 1974, he also said that the Government will provide support on similar terms for the application to the Boeing 747 when a major order is placed for -524 powered B747 aircraft in addition to those required by British Airways.'

'Is the Secretary of State for Industry, satisfied that the 747 Jumbo and the long-range Lockheed TriStar are directly competitive?' asked Mr. Pattie.

'The Boeing 747 is a substantially larger aircraft,' said Mr. Meacher. 'However, for some airlines the purchase of one of these aircraft would probably affect the requirement for the other.'

Mr. Pattie also asked for an estimate of the size of the jumbo market for the RB211 engine as compared with the TriStar market.

Mr. Meacher said: 'The market estimates are continually under review by both Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd., and the Government, and are based on information which is a matter of commercial confidentiality to the Company. The two markets are of course different in character. The RB211 is the only engine in service in the Lockheed TriStar while two other engines are available in the Boeing 747 and the RB211 would make a third. I would therefore not expect the RB211 market in the B747 to be as large as in the TriStar.'

Mr. Pattie inquired about the agreement between Boeing and Rolls Royce to work together on adapting the RB211 engine.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The agreement

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THE ACT AND THE EMPLOYER

The employer has increased responsibilities under the new Act. He should maintain safe plant, systems of work and premises; arrange adequate instruction, training and supervision; lay down his safety policy in writing and tell his employees about it.

Beyond that, all who design, manufacture, install, erect, import or supply anything for use at work will now be responsible for its safety.

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EMPLOYEES WILL HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES

Apart from taking care to avoid injury to themselves and others at work, they must co-operate to enable health and safety requirements to be complied with. Workers' safety representatives and worker committees can be appointed.

HOW ABOUT THE SELF-EMPLOYED?

Here too protection brings responsibility. Like employees, the self-employed must take care to avoid injuring themselves or others at work. They must avoid endangering the public.

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ISSUED BY THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION

between Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd., and Boeing is a matter for the two companies. I understand that the present agreement runs until the end of May 1975.'

'How much money is the Government being asked to supply in order to fund the adaptation of the uprated -524 version of the RB211 for use in the 747 jumbo jet?' asked Mr. Pattie.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The level of contribution requested by Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd., from the Government for the application of the RB211-524 to the Boeing 747 is related to the total costs of the application and is therefore a matter of commercial confidentiality for the company. Should the condition for Government support for the application, which my Rt. Hon. Friend announced to the House last December, be met, then he would give the House details as soon as possible, as he did for the launch of the -524 for the Tristar last December.'

North East Court Ship Repairers Ltd.

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry when he acquired the ordinary share capital in North East Court Ship Repairers Ltd.: and what is delaying the payment of compensation to the preference shareholders and debenture holders of that company.

Mr. Meacher replied that the ordinary shares were acquired on 19 September 1974. The preference shares and debentures have not yet been acquired.

North West Region

Mr. Churchill (Stretford) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, what steps he has taken since coming to office to improve employment prospects in the North West region.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'The Government have doubled the rate of Regional Employment Premium, strengthened the Industrial Development Certificate Control in non-assisted areas, and granted Special Development Area status to Merseyside. In addition 18 advance factories have been allocated to the Region in the past year, and a 21 acre site at Liverpool has been acquired from the Property Services Agency for factory development. The region will receive nearly 4,400 jobs as a result of Government dispersal plans. When the National Enterprise Board and the Planning Agreements System come into operation we shall be able to do still more to improve employment prospects.'

Thermo-nuclear fusion

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked what sites have been outlined for the Common Market project to test the feasibility of controlled thermo-nuclear fusion (Joint European Torus Project); and what are the relative advantages of each.

Mr. Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, replied: 'Six sites have been proposed for the Joint European Torus Project. They are: Culham (United Kingdom), Cadarache (France), Garching (Federal Republic of Germany), Julich (Federal Republic of Germany), Mol (Belgium) and Ispra (Italy). These sites are at present being considered by a Community Site Committee which is assessing their relative merits.'

Mr. Skeet also asked how many scientists and research workers in the UK, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Italy are currently working on controlled thermo-nuclear fusion; and how much money each of the States has spent on this line of research.

Mr. Eadie replied that the major expenditure in this field in the United Kingdom is undertaken by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, who estimate that 145 qualified scientists and engineers are currently employed on their programme. Net expenditure since 1954 when the Authority was established, is estimated at £68 million and the estimated outturn for 1974/75 is £3.7 million. Figures for the other countries mentioned are not readily available.

'Where was the original work on controlled thermo-nuclear fusion undertaken in the Community?' asked Mr. Skeet.

Mr. Eadie replied: 'In the countries now members of the Community the earliest experimental work towards controlled thermo-nuclear fusion was carried out in three UK universities from 1947 to 1951. The first coordinated programme of controlled thermo-nuclear research was undertaken at Harwell and Aldermaston from 1952 onwards and is now centred on the Culham laboratory of the Atomic Energy Authority.'

Wednesday, 19 March

Textile imports

Mr. Michael Shersby (Uxbridge) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what representations he has received concerning the trade in imported textiles.

Mr. Shore replied: 'The textile industry has made known to my Department its views on textile imports on a number of recent occasions through representations by Hon. Members, by Trade Associations and in letters from employers, trades union officials and individual workers in the industry. There is also close liaison between my Department and the Department of Industry with whom we keep the subject under constant review.'

Mr. Michael Shersby (Uxbridge) asked for details of the value and description of textile imports for the year ended 31 December 1974 in respect of each of the leading five exporting countries.

Mr. Shore gave the following information:

£ thousand cif

	Federal Republic of Germany	USA	Irish Republic	Portugal	Italy
Wool tops	77	413	13	17	0
Synthetic and regenerated fibres	8,903	7,567	4,155	15	4,425
Textile yarn and thread	33,411	16,561	28,244	9,050	10,266
Cotton fabrics, woven (not including narrow or special fabrics)	5,296	11,712	7,244	6,944	1,625
Textile fabrics, woven (not including narrow or special fabrics) other than cotton fabrics	16,129	28,731	12,712	11,655	27,617
Tulle, lace, embroidery, ribbons, trimmings and other small wares	837	836	436	7	95
Special textile fabrics and related products	8,094	5,448	3,536	4,283	1,826
Made-up articles wholly or chiefly of textile materials	930	2,372	3,920	16,223	1,006
Floor coverings, tapestries, etc.	1,309	1,071	11,666	404	197

Air Travel Reserve Fund Bill

Mr. Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford) asked the Secretary of State for Trade: 'What are the respective estimated amounts of compensation liable to be paid to customers of the eight air travel organisers named in Written Answers to the Honourable Member for Havering, Romford, on 11 March as coming within the scope of subsection 2(4)(b) and (5) of the Air Travel Reserve Fund Bill?'

Mr. Shore replied: 'It is not possible to give an accurate estimate of the compensation liable to be paid to customers of the eight air travel organisers because:

a claims must be collected and verified, in order to supplement information available from the air travel organiser's own records;

b the claims to be paid by the Reserve Fund Bill will depend on how many of the verified claims can be met by the monies remaining in the bonds;

c many of the claims refer to monies held by travel agents. It will not be known whether these claims are valid until the test cases arising from the liquidation of the Court Line travel firms have been decided.'

Aerodrome navigation services

Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked on what basis the Secretary of State for Trade approved increases in charges for navigation services between 51 per cent. and 82 per cent. at regional airports as against some 5 per cent. at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted; and for a statement on how these charges fit into the Government's policy of dispersal of air traffic from the South-East and of encouraging the greater use of regional airports.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The deficits on aerodrome navigation services provided by the Civil Aviation Authority are incurred mainly at the regional airports. It was for this reason that I approved recent increases in the Authority's charges at the regional airports at a higher rate than at the three London airports. This was the first increase at most of the regional airports since 1969, whereas charges at the London airports and Prestwick were increased by 50 per cent last year. The Government is examining ways of encouraging traffic to regional airports following abandonment of the Maplin project; and the financial position of the airports is one of the matters we shall be considering. Meanwhile, even if airlines were to pass on the whole of the extra charge at regional airports directly to the passenger, it has been estimated that it would cost about 50 pence on international and 20 pence on domestic flights. The increases are not therefore

expected to have any inhibiting effect on the volume of traffic using the regional airports.'

Department of Trade expenditure powers

Mr. Dodsworth asked the Secretary of State for Trade to list the individual limits of expenditure powers obtained by his department by means of legislation or affirmative order in the past 12 months.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'There have been no changes in the Department of Trade's powers in the last 12 months. The Air Travel Reserve Fund Bill now before Parliament would empower the Department to make loans up to a limit of £15 million.'

Department of Industry expenditure powers

Mr. Dodsworth asked the Secretary of State for Industry to list the individual limits of expenditure powers obtained by his department by means of legislation or affirmative order in the past 12 months.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'The Financial Assistance for Industry (Increase of Limit) Order 1975 which raises the limit of assistance under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 from £150 to £250 was approved by Parliament on 18 February.

'The Compensation for Limitation of Prices (Post Office) Order 1974, made under the Statutory Corporations (Financial Provisions) Act, 1974, came into operation on 10 December 1974 and provided for a payment to the Post Office of £123,567,000.'

Shipbuilding

Mr. Dodsworth asked what percentage of shipbuilding in the UK is carried out for export, for British defence industries and for UK investment.

Mr. Meacher said: 'Of the vessels of 100 gross tons or over reported as completed in UK commercial yards during 1974, naval vessels for export and merchant vessels for Commonwealth and foreign registration accounted for 30 per cent of the total value; vessels for the Ministry of Defence 17 per cent and vessels for other UK merchant registration 53 per cent.'

Waste paper

Mr. Charles Irving (Cheltenham) wanted to know the current annual import bills for newsprint and wood pulp for paper making; and asked for an estimate of the financial savings which could be achieved by using recycled waste paper instead to the maximum extent possible.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'Imports of newsprint in 1974 were valued at £172 million and of wood-pulp for paper-making purposes at £266 million. An assessment of the savings in the import bill which might accrue from a greater use of recycled fibre is currently being prepared for the Advisory Group on Waste Paper Recycling.'

Loans from EEC resources

Mr. Grimond (Orkney and Zetland) asked which industries receive cheap credit in the EEC; and to what extent.

Mr. Benn gave the following information: 'I take it that the Rt. Hon. Member's question refers to loans from Community resources. There are special arrangements under which funds can be made available to industry in the Community. The European Coal and Steel Community provides loans from funds to which the UK contributes for projects in the coal and steel industries, and for reconversion projects which will provide employment for redundant coal and steel workers. Loans are also available to undertakings and institutions in the Community from the European Investment Bank. There is also a scheme of Community support for high risk technological development projects in the hydrocarbons sector. The support is repayable in the event of commercial success.'

Thursday, 20 March

Food prices

Mr. Robert Banks (Harrogate) asked what foods listed in the retail price index can be bought for lower prices within the EEC than in this country.

Mrs. Williams said: 'The comparison of retail prices is not straightforward. But on the information available the following main foods could be bought cheaper in one or more of the other Member States than in the UK:

Beef
Sugar
Some fish
Apples
Oranges
Bananas
Tomatoes
Cabbages
Cauliflowers
Onions

'The list excludes certain foodstuffs, notably cereals, which could be expected to cost somewhat more to import at present, if we were not members of the Community.'

Textile imports

Mr. George Rodgers (Chorley) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would introduce an economic regulator which would automatically provide for a reduction of textile imports at times of recession and, if necessary, an increase at times of shortage.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'I have not yet completed examination of the value of statistical criteria, and the implications in relying solely on such criteria, as a guide to action by Government to restrict imports of textiles, but hope to do so within a week or so after Easter.'

Cost to public funds of nationalised industries

Mr. Dodsworth asked for a table showing the total cost to public funds of each nationalised industry (including compensation payments) from the date of nationalisation to the present time.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the information for the nationalised industries for which his Department is responsible as follows:

£ million

The Post Office	Amount (at out-turn prices)
Write-off of postal deficits	177.4
Compensation to the Post Office under the Statutory Corporations (Financial Provisions) Act 1974	133.3
Investment grants under the Industrial Development Act 1966	3.0
Total	313.7

The British Steel Corporation	Amount (at out-turn prices)
Transfer of capital debt to reserves*	350.0*
Investment grants, regional development grants and similar grants (including any due to the companies at the time of nationalisation)	207.6
Total	557.6

* Against this £128 million has been written off to date.

EEC financial assistance

Mr. Nigel Spearing (Newham South) asked what draft regulation or other instrument of the EEC, gives the EEC Commission the power to decide whether or not to approve a project for regional assistance applied for by HM Government, what criteria apply, and whether any such decision would be subject to the Council of Ministers.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'There are three schemes under which the Governments of the Member States have authorised, or are in the process of authorising, the Commission to decide whether individual projects for regional assistance meet criteria which the Governments have adopted in Community legislation. The criteria, or proposed criteria, are complex and I am sending my Rt. Hon. Friend the relevant documents dealing with the following schemes:

i the proposed Regional Development Fund (the draft Regulation has not yet been adopted);
ii the reconversion and readaptation assistance provided by the European Coal and Steel Community (Article 56 of the Treaty of Paris); and
iii assistance under Article 5 of the European Social Fund (Council Decision 71/66 of 1 February 1966 and Council Regulation No. 2396/71 of 8 November 1971).

'As regards the Social Fund and the Regional Development Fund the Commission is required to consult the Management Committees which are composed or expected to be composed largely of representatives of member governments. The Council, if all Ministers agree, can reverse Commission decisions about assistance from the Regional Development Fund and keeps the operations of the Social Fund under periodic review. With ECSC reconversion assistance the Council approves all Commission proposals for aid to individual projects except where new jobs are provided for redundant coal and steel workers in their own industries.'

A statement was asked for by Mr. Spearing concerning the right of establishment of steel mini-mills

Bankruptcy records for England and Wales

Details of bankruptcies in England and Wales are maintained in a public search room at Room 901. Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY.

Searches can be made personally or by an agent and a fee of 25p in respect of each bankruptcy inquiry is payable at the time.

in the United Kingdom together with the respective powers of HM Government, the British Steel Corporation, and the European Coal and Steel Community or the EEC Commission.

Mr. Meacher gave the following information: 'Section 15 of the Iron and Steel Act 1967, by which the consent of the Secretary of State for Industry was required for the establishment of certain production facilities for iron and steel, was repealed by the European Communities Act 1972 as a consequence of the UK joining the ESCE. We have put the Community on notice that we intend to pursue the problem of the powers available to HMG for effective control over the steel industry, as a separate issue from renegotiation.

'The European Commission, under Article 54 of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty, requires steel undertakings to notify it in advance of proposed investments. The Commission may then deliver a reasoned opinion on the proposal which is not, in general, mandatory.

'The British Steel Corporation has no powers regarding privately owned steelworks.'

Mr. Spearing also asked what projects of regional aid already approved by HM Government will not now qualify for assistance from the EEC Regional Fund under criteria so far proposed.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the following information:

'In the following circumstances projects receiving UK regional aid are not expected to qualify for assistance from the Funds:

a where the investment involved costs less than some £21,000;

b where fewer than 10 jobs are involved;

where the project does not fall within the framework of a regional development programme or similar statement; and

d where no UK Government expenditure is incurred after 1 January 1975 (apart from payments of Regional Employment Premium).

'In addition projects can only qualify for assistance so long as the UK's annual share of the Funds has not been exhausted.'

Friday, 21 March

Milk subsidy

Mr. Brian Gould (Southampton, Test) asked for an estimate of the cost of the milk subsidy in 1975-76; and the saving in terms of pence per pint.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'It is estimated that, subject to Parliamentary approval, expenditure on the milk subsidy in 1975/76 will be £270 million. This is equivalent to a saving to the consumer of about 2p per pint. The rate of subsidy paid in accordance with schemes under Section 1 of the Prices Act 1974 on milk produced in certain Scottish Islands and in the Isles of Scilly will accordingly be changed to 2p per pint from 6 April 1975.'

Airport landing charges

Mr. Trotter wanted to know the landing charges for Boeing 707 and 747 aircraft with a typical load at Heathrow; and asked for information about the comparative charges at John F. Kennedy, Chicago, Los Angeles, Paris, Frankfurt, and Amsterdam airports, respectively.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'Landing charges for a Boeing 707 and a Boeing 747 at Heathrow, with effect from 1 April 1975, with typical loads, are: £424 and £863, respectively during a standard hour, and £492 and £930, respectively during peak hours. Comparable charges at John F. Kennedy, Chicago, Los Angeles, Paris, Frankfurt and Amsterdam airports for the same aircraft are approximately: £566 and £945, £102 and £218, £57 and £122, £481 and £990, £500 and £997, and £446 and £866. The charges at US airports under-state the true cost to airlines and passengers since they exclude a passenger tax levied at major US airports and take no account of other elements included in charges at Heathrow.'

The Queen's Award to Industry

Mr. Lewis Carter-Jones (Eccles) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade, has received the report of the committee reviewing the scope of the Queen's Award to Industry, and what recommendations it makes concerning the institution of an award to employers with exceptional achievements in the employment of severely disabled people.

Mr. Shore answered: 'The Review Committee has not yet completed its work but is expected to submit its Report to the Prime Minister before the summer. The committee has before it various proposals concerning the scope of the scheme, including the point mentioned by my Hon. Friend.'

Nation Life

Mr. Robert Taylor (Croydon North West) asked under what powers the Department of Trade took action in September 1973 to insulate the affairs of Nation Life from those of the property and finance group of which it was then a member.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'Under Sections 14 and 21, on the ground specified in Section 12(4)(b) of the Insurance Companies Amendment Act 1973. These sections now appear respectively as Sections 30, 37 and 28(4)(b) in the consolidating Insurance Companies Act 1974.'

Skytrain licence

Mr. Russell Kerr (Hounslow, Feltham and Heston) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade had considered the CAA conclusions on the renewal of the Skytrain licence.

Mr. Shore replied: 'The Civil Aviation Authority concluded that the Skytrain service should not be started until the market had reached a healthy rate of growth, and that this was unlikely for at least 12 months, and perhaps longer. I agree. It is my intention to consider Skytrain as part of my review of civil aviation which, among other things, will be considering the different categories of service offered by British airlines. I shall of course take full account of the Civil Aviation Authority's conclusions. I hope to complete the review by the summer. In the meantime, it has been made clear to the US Government that we expect them to take no action which would prejudice our right to operate Skytrain in accordance with the air services agreement. My Department is also pursuing with the United States Authorities the desirability of removing certain restrictions on Laker Airways Charter Services which were imposed two years ago.'

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

8, 9 and 10 April 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts

Auctioneers: Walker Walton and Hanson (Dept. L), Byard Lane, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham NG1 2GL (Tel. 0602 54272)

Vehicles and plant including 600 saloons, limousines, estate cars, minibuses and light vans including 300 Morris Mini and Minor 1000 saloons and Travellers, Ford Escort 1100 saloons and estate cars. 270 Land Rovers. 48 motor cycles. Loading shovels by Bray, Fowler, Gainsborough and Michigan, tractors and angledozers by Caterpillar (D4, D4C), Case 1000, Track Marshall and Vickers. Mobile cranes by Coles, Jones and Ransome and Rapier, fork lift trucks (2,000-15,000 lb.). Towed scrapers, agricultural tractors, amphibious DUKWs, Factory trucks, 19RB plant spares. 400 commercial vehicles including heavy duty trucks and tractors by AEC, Diamond T, Leyland and Scammell. 125 trailers (10 cwt. to 50 ton), refuellers (900 to 2,500 gallons). Fire tenders and low loading trailers. The majority of vehicles are sold as single lots.

Catalogues for this sale, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

Department of the Environment

8 April 1975

Location: Department of the Environment, Supplies Division stores, India Pavilion, Exhibition Grounds, Wembley, Middlesex (Tel. 01-903 2508 or 01-902 4482)

Auctioneers: Messrs. Fuller, Horsey, Sons and Cassell, 52 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9ET (Tel. 01-248 7954)

Office and miscellaneous furniture, engineering, electrical, canteen, domestic and other equipment, etc.

Catalogue: direct from auctioneer, price 10p each.

BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

Britain meets the lean year challenge: store promotions in Japan in 1974

With the State Visit of the Queen to Japan in May, over 50 department stores in Japan will be holding special promotions of British goods. Rex Gordon Farrar, First Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Tokyo, discusses the results of Japanese department stores' 'British Fairs' last autumn.

Despite inflation and a decline in consumer spending last year, overall department store sales increased by some 20 per cent compared with 1973 – a boom year – though in volume terms this represents a 4 per cent decline. Yet British goods are still in demand and Japanese department stores, which sell 70 per cent of all imported manufactured consumer goods, have not let up in their demand for special promotions of British goods. These 'British Fairs' give a quality image to the department stores concerned and offer to the British exporter the opportunity to boost sales of existing lines and to introduce new merchandise. The stores either buy direct from Britain (many have London Buying Offices) or through local importers/wholesalers on these occasions.

Last autumn's economic down turn did not deter the 30 department stores who held special promotions of British goods. They bought merchandise from Britain worth at least £14 million, of which some £2 million represented additional buying for their British Fairs. These stores, several as big as any in London, are situated in Tokyo, Osaka and other leading cities in various parts of Japan.

Japanese buying habits

Japanese consumer spending is still tremendous, yet the changing economic climate is causing a variance in buying habits. The Japanese public have become more cautious in their spending. They are sensitive to price and particularly look for value added benefits. This trend is in fact working to the advantage of the British exporters. British goods which are competitive in price yet of good quality or have unique features are selling well.

In the 1974 promotions British cloth, fine china, crystal, giftware, Scotch whisky and foodstuffs as always featured prominently. Britain enjoys a first class reputation for quality items which Japanese traditionally buy as gifts, and it needs more than a temporary economic decline to dampen down gift-giving. British visitors are constantly amazed at the vast crowds pouring into all department stores and 1974, particularly at the end of year gift-giving season, was no exception. Yet not only the top quality gift end of the market was involved in the British Fairs. Even more encouraging was the significant sale of woollen items, including blankets; travel rugs; men's and women's readywear clothing; toys; kitchenware; earthenware; sports goods; and domestic heating appliances.

Provincial stores

In mountainous Japan the population of 110 million have to live on 20 per cent of the land's surface. Of this 40 million are concentrated in the Tokyo and Osaka conurbations which are the main target for sales of British consumer goods. However, there are another 11 cities with over half a million population, and even smaller towns often cater to the needs of a million people or so living in the neighbouring areas. In such towns department stores are steadily increasing purchases of imported goods from Britain to up-grade their quality 'image' so as to compete more effectively with the volume low price business of supermarkets. Their customers are also seeking quality goods locally to avoid long and increasingly expensive shopping trips to Tokyo or Osaka. Most of these stores combine with leading store groups based in Tokyo and Osaka to purchase direct from Britain or from the principal importers and wholesalers based in Tokyo or Osaka. Towns such as Sapporo in Hokkaido to the North, where the 1972 Winter Olympics were held, and Fukuoka in the island of Kyushu to the South are on a quality level with Tokyo with their fashions and tastes. Tastes and fashions are not always uniform. Last autumn stores in the northern part of Japan had particular success with the heavier British clothing, including furs and fur boots so necessary with one or two metres of snow covering the ground for at least three

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months of the year and soaring fuel bills. Sales to department stores can therefore mean exposure of new merchandise to consumers throughout Japan.

Official support

Support from the British Overseas Trade Board for the autumn 1974 events was diverse. At Hankyu, a leading department store in Osaka their British Fair was backed by a cultural exhibition featuring historical and valuable items from Warwick Castle, kindly loaned by Lord Brooks, who visited Japan for the event. A leading Tokyo-based department store group, Takashimaya, held British promotions in 19 stores within their group. This promotion was characterised by merchandise-orientated features with special emphasis on Royal Warrant Holder companies, Ercol furniture, fine china and clothing. The centrepiece of the promotion was silver putters loaned from St. Andrews Golf Club, and bagpipers of the First Gorden Highlanders Regiment gave a true Scottish flavour with performances in four of the leading stores – including a new shopping complex in a high income section of Tokyo. Elsewhere in Japan department stores were well bedecked with Union Jacks. One department store in a prosperous tourist/agricultural region obtained full support from the town authorities – it was similar to York or Guildford in size and income groups. A Town Carnival with processions and bands marked the opening of the first British store promotion in the town (Ueda City).

Why the emphasis on store promotions?

Department store buying from Britain has virtually doubled over the past two-and-a-half years and store promotions have played a pretty important role in stimulating this demand. More and more department stores throughout Japan are planning promotions. With the State Visit of the Queen to Japan in May more than 50 stores will be holding special promotions of British goods in 1975 (details available from Exports to Japan Unit, British Overseas Trade Board, Hillgate House, London, EC4M 7HU). All this represents a challenge and a great potential for British exporters of consumer goods. They would be hard put to find a more ideal British atmosphere in which to introduce their goods to consumers anxious to buy them during promotions. Leading British exporters to Japan recognise the value of these promotions. Last year two British manufacturers, Ercol (furniture) and Royal Doulton (fine china) backed up British store promotions with special features, displays and in the case of the former, press conferences and representations by the head of the firm. We expect more companies will follow suit in the promotions this spring. There may have been a decline in demand in 1974 compared with the boom conditions of 1973 but experts are forecasting an increase of about 5 per cent in gross national product in real terms for this year with consumer buying again starting a real upsurge in the second half of the year. It is also worth remembering that the average per capita income in Japan was 20 per cent above that of Britain in 1973 and the gap is continuing to widen. Prices are high but the Japanese public are spending more on the home, on leisure and sports, and on personal dress and comforts. They are ready to buy imported goods which cater to their tastes. The market is there. The promotional stage has been set. Are you a company which can take advantage of the potential?

Export publicity for industry

Publicity for British exporters can often be obtained through use of the facilities of the Central Office of Information, who are concerned with collecting from industry items suitable for dissemination overseas by way of Government information services. The COI are interested in news items, feature article material, photographs, tape recordings for radio, films for television and other screening, Contact should be made with the nearest Regional Office covering your area.

Northern: Mr H. G. Roberts, Andrews House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne NEI 4TB (Tel: 27575 – Telex 53277).

Yorkshire & Humberside: Mr D. de M. Guilfoyle, OBE, City House, Leeds LS1 4JG (Tel: 38232 – Telex Econ Plan 55472 – message to be prefixed for COI).

East Midland: Mr T. Cooban, Cranbrook House, Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1EW (Tel: 46121 – Telex 37572).

Eastern: Mr A. A. McLoughlin, Block D, Government Buildings, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2DF (Tel: 58911 – Telex 81187).

London & South Eastern*: Mr R. Dean, OBE, St. Christopher House Annexe, Sumner Street, London, SE1 (Tel: 01-928 2371 – Telex 918881 message to be prefixed for London Region).

Southern: Mr A. S. Poole, Market Place House, Reading RG1 2EH (Tel: 581261 – Telex 848216).

South Western: Mr W. J. D. Irving, MVO, The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2NF (Tel: 291071 – Telex 44203).

Midland: Mr D. C. Boyd, Five Ways House, Islington Row, Birmingham B15 1SH (Tel: 021-643 8191 – Telex 33376).

North Western: Mr H. V. Tillotson, MVO, 22nd floor, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BD (Tel: 061-832 9111 – Telex 667830).

Scottish Office: Mr C. MacGregor, MBE, Scottish Information Office, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh EH1 3DQ (Tel: 031-556 8501) District Office: 314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow C2 (Tel: 041-221 5670 – Telex 77583).

Ulster Office: Northern Ireland Information Service, Stormont Castle, Belfast BT4 3ST (Tel: 63011).

Welsh Office: Mr Brian Evans, Director, Welsh Office Information Division, 42 Park Place, Cardiff CF1 3PY (Tel: 28066 – Telex 49327).

* National companies in central London, and particularly those with UK subsidiaries or branches, which require overseas publicity should consult Industrial Section at COI Headquarters: Mr E. Turnbull, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU (Tel: 01-938 2345 ext. 271 – Telex 915444).

BOTB News

New rates of support for Outward Mission Scheme

The British Overseas Trade Board has reviewed the rates of support provided under the Outward Mission Scheme. The new rates (see schedule below) will come into effect for missions leaving the UK on or after 1 April 1975.

In making these changes the Board has sought to make the best use of the resources available for this scheme. The changes take account of increased costs, including air travel.

Inquiries arising from this notice should be addressed to Mrs. M. Touchard, Fairs and Promotions Branch, Department of Trade, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7HU; tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7218.

Table of contributions

Until further notice the rates shown below will apply to approved missions visiting only **single countries**.

Country	Contribution £
Afghanistan	200
Algeria	75
Angola	250
Argentina	275
Australia	500
Bahamas	150
Bahrain	200
Barbados	200
Bolivia	300
Botswana	300
Brazil	300
Brunei	325
Bulgaria	100
Burma	300
Cameroon	200
Canada	
1 Montreal-Toronto-Ottawa	175
2 All destinations west of these towns	225
Chile	300
China	400
Colombia	250
Costa Rica	225
Cuba	175
Cyprus	125
Czechoslovakia	75
Dominican Republic	200
Ecuador	250
Egypt	125
El Salvador	225
Ethiopia	200
Fiji	425
Finland	100
Gambia	175
German Democratic Republic	50
Ghana	175
Greece	100
Guatemala	225
Guyana	225
Haiti	200
Honduras	225
Hong Kong	350
Hungary	75
Iceland	75
India	225
Indonesia	350
Iran	200
Iraq	150
Israel	150
Ivory Coast	175
Jamaica	200
Japan	450
Jordan	150
Kenya	225
Khmer	300
Korea, Republic of	450
Kuwait	200
Laos	325
Lebanon	150
Lesotho	300
Liberia	175
Libya	100
Malagasy Republic	300
Malawi	250
Malaysia	300
Malta	75
Mauritius	300
Mexico	200
Mongolia	200
Morocco	75
Mozambique	300
Nepal	250
New Zealand	500
Nicaragua	225
Nigeria	200
Oman	200
Pakistan	225
Panama	225
Paraguay	275
Peru	250
Philippines	350
Poland	75
Qatar	200
Romania	100
Saudi Arabia	200
Senegal	150
Sierra Leone	175
Singapore	300
Somali Republic	200
South Africa	300
South Vietnam, Republic of	300
Sri Lanka	250
Sudan	175
Surinam	225
Swaziland	300
Syria	150
Tanzania	225
Thailand	300
Togo	175
Tonga	425
Trinidad and Tobago	200
Tunisia	75
Turkey	100
Uganda	225
United Arab Emirates	200
United States	
1 Minneapolis, Kansas City, New Orleans, Miami and destinations east of a line through these towns	175
2 All destinations west of this line	225
Uruguay	275
USSR	125
Venezuela	250
Yemen, Arab Republic	200
Yemen, People's Democratic Republic	200
Yugoslavia	75
Zaire Republic	225
Zambia	250

Note 1. Missions covering more than one country will normally attract the contribution for the farthest point in the journey. Missions lasting not less than 10 days to **more than one country** among those shown immediately below will attract the rate of contribution indicated.

To more than one country	£
Australia, New Zealand	550
Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore	500 (1)
The Gulf States	250
South East Asia	350
Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela	300
Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay	350 (2)
Mexico, Central America, Venezuela	275
Trinidad, Jamaica, Barbados	225
Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone	225 (3)
German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia	100

(1) To qualify for this rate a visit to Japan must be included in the itinerary.

(2) To qualify for this rate a visit to Brazil must be included in the itinerary.

(3) To qualify for this rate a visit to Nigeria must be included in the itinerary.

Note 2. Assistance under this scheme for visits to Western Europe is available only for approved missions organised in connection with specially targeted export promotion operations. The contribution for such missions is £50. For the purposes of this scheme Western Europe comprises Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, German Federal Republic, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Small Firms Information Centres

Centre	Telephone	Freefone area	Freefone	Telex
Birmingham	021-643 3344	West Midlands	4054	337919
Bristol	294546	South West	9910	449650
Cardiff	396116	Wales	1208	497515
Glasgow	041-248 6014	Scotland	846	779334
Leeds	445151	Yorks/Humberside	5361	557687
London	01-828 2384	London & South East	2079	917920
Luton	29215	Eastern	372	826115
Manchester	061-832 5282	North Western	6005	667952
Newcastle	25353	Northern	529	537429
Nottingham	49791	East Midlands	4062	377313

This is the heaviest tank to be moved by the hover principle, according to the Air Cushion Division of Mears Construction Ltd., London. The operation was carried out at the Pauillac refinery of Shell Francaise near Bordeaux. During the move the floating roof of the 700-ton tank was supported on an independent cushion of air. The contract was undertaken by Mears in conjunction with their French associates, Ponticelli Freres of Paris and Bordeaux, and Buzzichelli of Toulouse.

Increased charges for participation at overseas trade fairs

The British Overseas Trade Board, with Ministers' approval, has decided that the following new charges will apply to all events which are due to take place on or after 1 July 1975:

a. **Support for UK firms under the Joint Venture Scheme**
The new charge will £4 a square metre for inside space and £1.50 a square metre for outside space.

b. **Support for UK firms under the British Pavilion Scheme**
The new charge will be £20 a square metre for inside space and £10 a square metre for outside space.

All other conditions of the Joint Venture and British Pavilion Schemes remain unchanged.

The Board deploys two-thirds of its financial resources in assisting British firms under these two schemes and the support provided by the Board under these schemes will remain very substantial.

Inquiries arising from this notice should be addressed to Miss B. Walls, Fairs and Promotions Branch, Department of Trade, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7HU; tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7251.

Visits by British Overseas Commercial Officers

The following Overseas Commercial Officers are expected to be in this country shortly, when they will be available for discussions:

Burma
T. K. Blackman, First Secretary (Commercial) in Rangoon since June 1974.
Available: July 1975.

Canada
R. C. Robinson, MBE, Trade Commissioner and Head of Post in Winnipeg since October 1972.
Available: July 1975.

Libya
I. S. Lockhart, MBE, First Secretary (Commercial) in Tripoli since July 1974.
Available: August 1975.

Pakistan
D. J. Wood, Vice Consul (Commercial) in Karachi since September 1973.
Available: July 1975.

Puerto Rico
R. French, Vice Consul in San Juan since November 1973.
Available: June 1975.

Singapore
D. L. Smallman, Second Secretary (Commercial) in Singapore since August 1973.
Available: June 1975.

British firms and organisations, other than those in Northern Ireland and in the areas covered by the Department of Trade Offices for the Eastern Region and the London and South Eastern Region, who wish to meet these officers to discuss specific export problems are asked to write for appointment to the appropriate Department of Trade Regional Director (Exports) stating the nature of the problem and commodities involved. Those firms and organisations in the London-based Regions mentioned above (together with those in other Regions who would prefer, or who would be prepared if necessary to meet the officers for an interview in London) should write to Tours Section, Overseas Visitors Bureau, Department of Trade, Room G60, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Firms and organisations who wish to meet these officers in Northern Ireland should contact the Export Branch of the Department of Commerce, Belfast.

Because Commercial Officers often have only limited time at their disposal it may not always be possible to fit everyone in. Where it is possible, firms are reminded that the Export Services and Promotion Division of the Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU who are in close touch with all Overseas Commercial Officers can very often supply advice, or the information that applicants hoped to obtain at the interview. Outside London the Regional Offices of the Department of Trade or, in Northern Ireland, the Department of Commerce, Belfast, can also help.

Exhibitions and Fairs

Holland event: inflation takes wind out of sales

From Wim Oudshoorn, Commercial Officer, British Embassy, The Hague: 20th International Sailboat and Camping Exhibition, RAI Building, Amsterdam, 4-9 March: For the first time this exhibition was split into two, with sail boats being shown 4-9 March and power boats 18-23 March. As a result, the organisers this year were able to satisfy most demands for space. This enabled not only more boats but a greater variety of dinghies, sailing boats, launches and catamarans to be shown.

There were 323 exhibitors, compared with 358 for both shows last year, and nearly 140,000 people visited the exhibition. There were joint ventures from Britain (22 companies), West Germany (six companies) and France (five companies). The British exhibition, sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Ship and Boat Builders National Federation, covered an area of just over 1,200 sq. m. out of a total of 50,000 sq. m.

British companies showed a wide selection of boats, ranging from a sailing dinghy of 3.3 metres to a luxurious motor yacht over 14 metres long. Six companies displayed accessories such as rigging, masts and booms, generators, steering equipment, winches, pumps, protective clothing.

The consensus among exhibitors was that, although the exhibition itself was successful, sales prospects were not as good as they were a year ago mainly because inflation had reduced the amount of money available for spending on boats, average prices had increased by 15 per cent and legislation had been introduced which requires an owner to register his yacht and pay its taxes. Nevertheless, Mirror Boats Ltd. sold over 100 sailing dinghies and more than 400 visitors were registered as potential buyers of such boats: its attraction is partly because the price is attractive and partly because it is provided in a kit form which the enthusiast can assemble.

Rondar Boats Ltd., a British manufacturer of internationally known racing dinghies, whose boats have won no fewer than 21 British, European and World Champion events, attracted a good deal of attention, especially from younger visitors.

In powerful cruising yachts, Britain was very well represented by manufacturers exhibiting a wide choice in several price ranges. The 'Pintail' cruiser, in particular, with a fibreglass hull and wooden superstructure was widely admired. Two extremes were exhibited by Tom Lack: an outsize catamaran and single-seat plastic canoes.

As far as imports of seaworthy ships to The Netherlands are concerned, it became clear that the British and Scandinavian watersports have always concentrated on larger open waters, due to their natural ports.

The exhibition was visited on the opening day by British Ambassador Sir John Barnes (*in centre of picture above on a British stand*) and officials from the Embassy in The Hague and the Consulate-General in Amsterdam.

The limitations of the RAI Amstel Hall for a show of this kind were again evident in that some exhibitors could not erect the masts on their boats: this may discourage participation in future. Generally, the exhibitors were satisfied: organisation and the general administration of the joint venture stand were of high standard.

A joint venture for São Paulo

BEAMA is to organise a British joint venture in collaboration with the British Overseas Trade Board at the First International Mechanical Engineering and Electro-Electronics Trade Fair, São Paulo, Brazil, 20-30 November.

This exhibition brings together two previous Brazilian fairs which dealt separately with mechanical and electrical-electronic products and this will be the first occasion when foreign companies can participate.

When the combined Machinery Trade Fair and Electro-Electronic Trade Fair was last held, 520 Brazilian companies occupied 27,000 sq. m. of space at Parque Anhambi.

Since then, reports BEAMA, the demand for every one of the product categories specified for the 1975 fair has risen dramatically and the need to meet this demand is the major reason why manufacturers from all over the world have now been invited to participate.

The organisers say that Brazil has now reached the stage where it must look to the international market for the machinery and equipment needed to keep pace with its transition from a basically agricultural country to one of great industrial power.

Product sectors cover metal, plastic and wood working machines, earth moving equipment, tools, boilers, combustion engines, communications, electrical/electronic equipment including motors, power and transmission equipment, control equipment and lighting.

There is a growing potential for the export of equipment to Brazil's expanding industry sectors and the joint venture will provide British firms with a timely opportunity to further explore the market, states BEAMA. Interested firms should contact BEAMA's exhibitions organiser at Leicester House, 8 Leicester Street, London WC2H 7BN, tel. 01-437 0678.

Long Beach: buoyant buyers boost sailboat show

From Barrie S. Jones, British Consulate-General, Los Angeles: In a period of gloriously sunny weather the Sixth Annual Southern California Marine Association Long Beach Sailboat Show took place 14-23 February just across the bay in Long Beach, California, from the permanent berth of the *Queen Mary*. Enjoying the weather (when they were able to spare a few minutes from the pressures of business) were the representatives of 11 British companies who participated in this show under the joint sponsorship of the Ship and Boat Builders National Federation and the British Overseas Trade Board.

As it rarely rains in Southern California, the visitors who flocked to the show seemed to have shelved the idea of saving for a rainy day and were in a buying mood. The constantly gloomy economic news appears to have had the effect of increasing the number of persons feeling the need to get away from it all by taking up sailing. Attendance of the show was up by a record 30 per cent over last year's figures, with over 75,000 visitors paying to see the latest in sailboats and related hardware.

The only British boat on display was the sturdily handsome Fisher 37 fibreglass motorsailer which looked particularly impressive with its dark blue hull and brown sails against the backdrop of the predominantly white, mass-produced, domestic competition. So great was the rush to board the Fairways Marine Ltd. boat that sales director Geoffrey Warde and his local agents, Sumner and Joan Ladd Marine, were forced to institute a 'boarding by appointment only' system. Even so, queues formed regularly to make viewing appointments and several hundred visitors – many seriously interested in buying – boarded the roomy seven-berth luxury motorsailer.

Of the 10 British companies occupying booths at the show, perhaps the success story is that of the newest company, SOS Swimwear Ltd. Ray Freedman and Alf Teale exhibited their range of self-inflatable swimwear belts for the first time in California. This range captured the imagination of the local media and ABC television network featured the product in an evening news programme. During the show, SOS appointed a new distributor – Mailboat Inc. of Florida – and finance director Henry Gordon reported that the US company had placed an initial order for over $500,000 worth of swimwear belts and packs.

Of the several experienced British companies at Long Beach, group leader Mike Handford of Cranfield Sails Ltd. found that his regular attendance at joint ventures at Long Beach were paying off handsomely: he took away a large number of serious inquiries for quotations for his company's custom made, quality sails. Charles Valentine of Transtrip Ltd. was exhibiting his company's low voltage lighting products for the third time in Southern California in 12 months and was confident that his new distribution arrangements with the aggressive Elsco Distributing Co. would show increasing dividends.

The marine hardware side of the British boating industry was extremely well represented by M. S. Gibb Ltd., Jack Holt Ltd. and International Yacht Equipment Ltd. who all displayed a wide selection from their range on stands manned by their US representatives. Mike and Meg Henderson of Henderson Pumps shared the Gibb stand and found an increasing amount of interest this year in their hand-operated bilge pumps – possibly because of the interest in energy conservation in the US.

Other regular participants in Californian boating industry joint ventures were Sharp and Co. Ltd. with its auto pilots and Thomas Foulkes with chandlery equipment. First time entrants in the show Edward MacBean Ltd., with sailing clothing, and Offshore Instruments Ltd., with bino and mini compasses, found there was plenty of interest in their products from the knowledgeable Californian boating public.

There certainly seems to be little evidence of any downturn in consumer interest in sailing in Southern California. British companies now have a unique opportunity to capitalise on this buoyant state of affairs as the show organisers have changed the show dates from February to October. The next Long Beach Sailboat Show is, therefore, scheduled to take place 17-26 October 1975 and it is hoped that as many British companies as possible will exhibit.

Visitors admire greeting cards and wrapping paper on a British stand at last month's International Trade Fair in Frankfurt.

London film fair's bright projection

With some three months to go, interest in Film 75, the 4th International Technology Conference and Exhibition to be organised by the British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society, is growing daily and, despite the general economic climate, it is reported that the signs are that it will prove the most successful to date. The previous event drew 1,000 delegates from some 35 territories.

The Papers Programme will also have a distinct international flavour, with over 50 being presented from more than a dozen countries.

More exhibitors than ever will participate in the equipment exhibition which has been extended over two floors at the conference venue, London's Royal Lancaster Hotel. All stand space was taken some months ago.

Full support for the conference, 23-27 June, has been given by the industry. The British Overseas Trade Board is to support a reception for overseas delegates. The Rank Organisation will host a reception and an audio visual evening will demonstrate a variety of entertainment devices, some canned. Agfa-Gevaert Ltd. will sponsor Film 75's Coffee Rendezvous at the Royal Lancaster Hotel. And there will be an exhibition of posters on the subject of visual communications in film and television.

In addition to the papers presented at Film 75 conference venues, there will be an Outside Visit Programme. This will be dovetailed into the Papers Programme and will include visits to studios, laboratories, equipment manufacturers and other places of interest to delegates.

British firms book big export orders at agricultural exhibition in Paris

From Elizabeth Devèze, Commercial Information Officer, British Embassy, Paris: Export orders worth more than £1.5 million were taken by British exhibitors at the Salon de l'Agriculture in the French capital. As a follow-up to the record number of agricultural exports from the UK last year (worth £852 million), British animal breed societies, marketing boards, manufacturers of farm machinery and other organisations associated with the agricultural industry, staged their strongest effort to date at the Paris Agricultural Show, 2-9 March, one of the largest and most comprehensive of its kind in the world.

Some 40 British exhibitors took part under joint venture schemes sponsored by the British Agricultural Export Council and the Agricultural Engineers Association, in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board. Sixty-seven British companies exhibited independently. The joint venture participation covered many aspects of the nation's exporting interests. As well as farm machinery, there was a strong representation of British livestock including, in the cattle section, Friesian, Galloway, Jersey, Sussex, South Devon and Welsh Black and, in the sheep section, North Country, Cheviots and Suffolks.

Lord Glenkinglas, chairman of BAEC, stated that industrial difficulties at home had not deterred exhibitors who wished to maintain their grasp on the growing agricultural market.

Exports of British farm machinery to France increased from £5,735,000 in 1973 to £7,689,000 in the first 11 months of last year. Estimates for total exports of farm machinery to France in 1974 are £8,388,000.

British stands at this year's Agricultural Show and Poultry Show drew a great deal of attention because of the originality of their presentation. A design team from the Department of Trade (headed by Les King and Eric Unsworth) presented the British stands collectively as an English market town. Sufficient detail was incorporated – gaily painted facades, street names and a town clock in traditional style – to give an unmistakable identity to the British exhibits. The British exhibit in the Poultry Show received the Medaille d'Or given by the organisers for the best presentation at the show.

A total of 2,000 animals were shown at this year's show on 50,000 sq. m. of space. Foreign exhibitors came from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Switzerland and the United States (and the UK, of course). The United States was represented for the first time. The British had the biggest national display (1,031 sq. m.).

UK entry prominent at Copenhagen show

At the 3rd International Food Fair, recently held in the Bella Centret, Copenhagen, Great Britain was represented by a national stand sponsored by the British Food Export Council, under joint venture terms, with the British Overseas Trade Board. The stand, covering 408 sq. m., was the largest foreign exhibit at the fair.

On exhibition were products from 16 British companies and seven from Northern Ireland.

Companies exhibiting were: Hammonds Sauce Co. Ltd., Bovril Ltd., W. A. Baxter and Sons Ltd., Elsenham Quality Foods Ltd., Schwartz Spices Ltd., Merrydown Wine Co. Ltd., H.P. Bulmer and Co. Ltd., Stewarts of Dundee. O.P. Chocolate Specialities Ltd., Bassett Exports Ltd., Tavener Rutledge Ltd., Maynards Ltd., J. I. Rodale and Co. Ltd., Percy Dalton's Famous Peanut Co., Columbus Dixon Ltd., Smith Kendon Ltd.

From Northern Ireland there were: Livestock Marketing Commission, Pigs Marketing Board, Milk Marketing Board, Moy Park Ltd., Green Leaf Nurseries, Ormeau Bakeries, Peile Foods Ltd.

Food exports to Denmark in 1973 totalled £13,957,700 and in 1974 they reached a total of £14,654,000.

Although the fair, 4–9 March, is international and products are displayed from some 50 countries, the bulk of buyers was expected from Scandinavian and north European countries. An attendance of visitors was forecast by the fair authorities as 100,000.

The British Food Export Council will follow up this exhibition with an inward mission of trade buyers from Norway and Sweden, 9–11 April.

Wide range of toys displayed in Tokyo

A group of 15 British toy manufacturers exhibited for the first time at the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo this month. The exhibition was held under the direction of the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Toy Manufacturers Association.

The Japanese market for toys is regarded by the manufacturers as one of growing potential and they exhibited at the Centre, 18-20 March, a wide range of goods including construction kits, wooden jigsaws and nursery toys, arts and crafts, vehicles, guns and a full range of diecast models and kits.

The exhibitors are all members of an 11-day trade mission to Japan 17-27 March.

British toy exports to Japan in 1974 amounted to £1.73 million, a rise of 27 per cent on 1973.

Payne and Holloway Ltd. of Birmingham was one of the British firms which participated at the International Housewares Fair, Cologne, 14-16 February A total of 46 British firms were exhibiting at this specialised event within a joint venture group organised by the British Overseas Trade Board in association with the Hardware Manufacturers Association, the British Artmetal Manufacturers Export Group and the UK Cutlery and Silverware Manufacturers' Association. Held concurrently at the same exhibition ground in Cologne was the International Hardware Fair at which a joint venture display consisting of 26 British firms had been organised by the British Overseas Trade Board in collaboration with the Hardware Manufacturers' Association and the Federation of British Handtool Manufacturers. Payne and Holloway Ltd. showed fancy goods and a selection of metal houseware. The picture taken on its stand shows Max Holloway, joint managing director, (left) and P. Payne, joint managing director (right), discussing their 'Grosvenor' trolley, with Salam Badrig of Saudi Arabia (second from left) and Rachid Kebbi of the Lebanon (second from right) who both placed orders.

Trade Information

New arrangements for licensing exports of ferrous scrap to countries outside the European Economic Community

A new scheme for allocating licences for the export of ferrous scrap to countries outside the European Economic Community is to be introduced.

The Departments of Industry and Trade, after taking account of the representations made by the British Scrap Federation about the short-comings of existing arrangements, will introduce the new scheme with effect from 1 April 1975.

Under existing arrangements only those merchants engaged in the export of ferrous scrap in the base period of 12 months ended 31 August 1973 have been granted export licences; the allocation of a restricted tonnage quota has been related to export performance in this reference period. With the recent decline in demand for scrap and while supplies remain more than adequate to meet the needs of UK steelmakers some further relaxation of present restrictions on exports of particular grades can now be made.

Under the new arrangements, effective as from 1 April 1975, licences will be issued to applicants providing evidence of firm export orders. The exports allowed will have regard to the tonnage applied for which must be covered by such orders. No applicant will be granted an initial licence for more than 1,500 tonnes. However, a further application may be made by any licensee (supported by evidence of export contracts and the original licence suitably endorsed to show shipments made) when not less than half of the original licensed tonnage has been shipped. Licences will no longer be confined to those merchants engaged in exporting in the reference period of 1972-3, but will still be restricted to those regularly engaged in ferrous scrap trading. Successful applicants will be required to report exports made against licences on a monthly basis.

Export licences will be available for the following types of non-alloy ferrous scrap only :

i compressed baled material, other than compressed unused sheet and sheet cuttings;

ii loose used wrought material containing 90 per cent or more, by weight, of material of a thickness not exceeding 3 mm.;

iii turnings and borings.

Applications are now invited for export licences which will only be valid for a period of not more than two months, for a tonnage of ferrous scrap not more than 1,500 tonnes. Applications will not be considered unless they are supported by documentary evidence (in English) of firm orders to sell to a buyer in a non-Community country, subject to the availability of a United Kingdom export licence, stipulated tonnages of one or more of the specified types of ferrous scrap in a stipulated period. The tonnage stipulated in the contract(s) may exceed the quantity for which application is made and may be for a longer or shorter period than two months.

Applications (in triplicate) for export licences, accompanied by copies of supporting evidence, should be forwarded to the Department of Trade, Export Licensing Branch, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Another announcement will be made in due course and in any event by the end of June, about any continuation or revision of these arrangements. Continuation of the present relaxation of controls will depend on adequate supplies being maintained to UK users.

No individual export licences are required for the export of ferrous scrap to Community countries.

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The People for all
EXPORT INVOICES &
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KENT HOUSE LANE
BECKENHAM KENT BR3 1JR

Telephone: 01-659 1931

ECGD news

Zambia: £1.6m extension to line of credit

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed an additional £1.6 million to an existing line of credit for N'changa Consolidated Copper Mines Ltd. (NCCL), Zambia. The loan was arranged by Tozer Standard and Chartered Ltd. on behalf of a syndicate of London clearing and Scottish banks. This is the second increase in the amount made available under the original line of credit guaranteed by ECGD for NCCML and brings the total amount guaranteed over the past three years to £6.4 million.

This additional finance will enable NCCML to place further contracts in the United Kingdom for capital goods and associated services to be used in underground and open cast mining.

United Kingdom suppliers will receive 80 per cent of the contract price from the loan after shipment of the goods; the remaining 20 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources. To qualify under the terms of the loan a contract must have minimum value of £40,000 and be placed by 30 June 1975.

Details are available from ECGD (J. Silbertson, 01-606 6699 ext. 7173) or Tozer Standard and Chartered (R. D. Bessell, 01-283 3122).

Korean Minister for Commerce and Industry, Lyejoon Chang, being welcomed to a reception in his honour at Lancaster House, London by the Secretary of State for Trade, Peter Shore. Mr. Chang's three-day visit coincided with that of a mission of 17 Korean industrialists and bankers led by Chung Ju Young, chairman of the Hyundai Group, and of the Korean-British Business Promotion Committee.

Notices to Importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB.

No. 1484: Textiles: import surveillance

As already announced, most yarns and fabrics of all main textile fibres and the basic man-made fibres, consigned from all countries other than those of the EEC, which are not already subject to licensing are being placed under import surveillance. This is being done by requiring importers of such goods to obtain individual import licences, which will be issued freely without restriction as to quantity, but subject to the provision of certain information.

The following paragraphs explain briefly the present import licensing arrangements for textiles and set out the details of new arrangements:

Important: new import surveillance arrangements

These replace and extend the existing arrangements for import surveillance of textiles. But 'surveillance' licences need not be obtained additionally for textiles already subject to import *restraint*: licensing arrangements for these have been set out in previous notices and are unaffected by the extended import surveillance. It is hoped to publish a comprehensive notice about UK textile import arrangements as soon as possible after the conclusion of the EEC negotiations with the major supplying countries under the GATT Multifibre Arrangement.

On and after 3 April 1975 the following textiles consigned to the UK from any country or territory outside the EEC may be imported only under an individual import licence:

ENGLISH EXPORTERS (LONDON) LTD.

70 Baker Street, London, W.1.

Telephone 01-486 4871 (7 lines) *Telex:* 28784 Cables: ENGLEXPORT London

WE SPECIALISE IN HANDLING EASTERN EUROPEAN RECIPROCAL BUSINESS AGAINST U.K. DELIVERIES
WE SPECIALISE IN SWITCH, TRIANGULAR AND COMPENSATION TRANSACTIONS OF ANY KIND.

Tariff heading	Description of goods
50.04	Silk yarn, other than yarn of noil or other waste silk, not put up for retail sale
50.05	Yarn spun from silk waste other than noil, not put up for retail sale
50.06	Yarn spun from noil silk, not put up for retail sale
50.07	Silk yarn and yarn spun from noil or other waste silk, put up for retail sale
50.09	Woven fabrics of silk or of waste silk other than noil
50.10	Woven fabrics of noil silk
51.01	Yarn of man-made fibres (continuous), not put up for retail sale
51.03	Yarn of man-made fibres (continuous), put up for retail sale
51.04	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (continuous) including woven fabrics o monofil or strip of heading No. 51.01 or 51.02
52.01	Metallised yarn, being textile yarn spun with metal or covered with metal by any process
52.02	Woven fabrics of metal thread or of metallised yarn, of a kind used in articles of apparel, as furnishing fabrics or the like
53.06	Yarn of carded sheep's or lambs' wool (woollen-yarn), not put up for retail sale
53.07	Yarn of combed sheep's or lambs' wool (worsted yarn), not put up for retail sale
53.08	Yarn of fine animal hair (carded or combed), not put up for retail sale
53.10	Yarn of sheep's or lambs' wool, of horsehair or of other animal hair (fine or coarse), put up for retail sale
53.11	Woven fabrics of sheep's or lambs' wool or of fine animal hair
54.03	Flax or ramie yarn, not put up for retail sale
54.04	Flax or ramie yarn, put up for retail sale
54.05	Woven fabrics of flax or of ramie
55.05	Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale
55.06	Cotton yarn, put up for retail sale
55.07	Cotton gauze
55.08	Terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, of cotton
55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton
56.01	Man-made fibres (discontinuous), not carded, combed or otherwise prepared for spinning
56.02	Continuous filament tow for the manufacture of man-made fibres (discontinuous)
56.03	Waste (including yarn waste and pulled or garnetted rags) of man-made fibres (continuous or discontinuous), not carded, combed or otherwise prepared for spinning
56.04	Man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste), carded, combed or otherwise prepared for spinning
56.05	Yarn of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste), not put up for retail sale
56.06	Yarn ot man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste), put up for retail sale
56.07	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste)
57.05	Yarn of true hemp
57.06	Yarn of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading No. 57.03
57.07	Yarn of other vegetable textile fibres
57.09	Woven fabrics of true hemp
57.10	Woven fabrics of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading No. 57.03
57.11	Woven fabrics of other vegetable textile fibres
58.04	Woven pile fabrics and chenille fabrics (other than terry towelling or similar terry fabrics of cotton falling within heading No. 55.08 and fabrics falling within heading No. 58.05)
58.05	Narrow woven fabrics, and narrow fabrics (Bolduc) consisting of warp without weft assembled by means of an adhesive, other than goods falling within heading No. 58.06
58.06	Woven labels, badges and the like, not embroidered, in the piece, in strips or cut to shape or size
58.07	Chenille yarn (including flock chenille yarn), gimped yarn (other than metallised yarn of heading No. 52.01 and gimped horsehair yarn); braids and ornamental trimmings in the piece; tassels, pompons and the like
58.08	Tulle and other net fabrics (but not including woven, knitted or crocheted fabrics), plain
58.09	Tulle and other net fabrics (but not including woven, knitted or crocheted fabrics), figured; hand or mechanically made lace, in the piece, in strips or in motifs
58.10	Embroidery, in the piece, in strips or in motifs
59.04	Twine, cordage, ropes and cables, plaited or not
59.05	Nets and netting made of twine, cordage or rope, and made up fishing nets of yarn, twine, cordage or rope
59.06	Other articles made from yarn, twine, cordage, rope or cables, other than textile fabrics and articles made from such fabrics
59.07	Textile fabrics coated with gum or amylaceous substances, of a kind used for the outer covers of books and the like; tracing cloth; prepared painting canvas; buckram and similar fabrics for hat foundations and similar uses
59.08	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with preparations of cellulose derivatives or of other artificial plastic materials
59.09	Textile fabrics coated or impregnated with oil or preparations with a basis of drying oil
59.11	Rubberised textile fabrics, other than rubberised knitted or crocheted goods
59.12	Textile fabrics otherwise impregnated or coated; painted canvas being theatrical scenery, studio back-cloths or the like
59.13	Elastic fabrics and trimmings (other than knitted or crocheted goods) consisting of textile materials combined with rubber threads
60.01	Knitted or crocheted fabric, not elastic nor rubberised

The licences will be used for statistical purposes and applications must be accompanied by evidence in the form of copies of correspondence or of contract or order documents, of intent to import the goods. These 'surveillance' licences will be valid for two months. Applications, on Form ILB/A, should be made to Import Licensing Branch, Department of Trade at the above address.

On pages 3 and 5 of Form ILB/A, the 'description of goods' must include in generic terms the percentage breakdown of the fibre content of the goods (eg 100 per cent acrylic; or 60 per cent polyamide/40 per cent lambswool; or 35 per cent cotton/65 per cent polyester). In addition, applicants must provide under 'tariff heading' the appropriate UK overseas trade classification (eight digit) number. Licences not fully used at the expiry of validity should be returned to Import Licensing Branch.

Present import licensing position

Currently there are a variety of import licensing arrangements affecting imports of textiles from various sources. In many cases, imports are subject to restraint; in others, licences are granted freely without restriction (ie import surveillance). *Broadly* the position is as follows:

SUBJECT TO RESTRAINT

Developing countries – cotton yarn; woven cotton cloth; woven polyester cotton cloth*; woven jute cloth; woven cotton made-ups (mainly garments); woven polyester cotton made-ups*.

Eastern Area and Japan – cotton yarn; man-made fibre yarn; woven cotton cloth; woven man-made fibre cloth; woven wool cloth; woven jute cloth; woven, knitted or crocheted made-ups of cotton, man-made fibre or wool.

SUBJECT TO IMPORT SURVEILLANCE

Developing countries – minor woven cotton made-ups; woven polyester cotton cloth and made-ups.

Japan – minor woven cotton made-ups.

Eastern Area – silk yarn†; woven silk cloth†.

Mediterranean countries – cotton yarn‡; woven cotton and polyester cotton cloth and made-ups.

All non-EEC and EFTA countries – jute yarn.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-222 4321.

* Only Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, Colombia and Thailand.
† Subject to restraint from China.
‡ Subject to restraint from Greece and Turkey.

No. 1485: Imports of cotton yarn from Turkey and Greece

Notice to Importers No. 1473 (see *Trade and Industry*, 2 January 1975) set out the licensing arrangements for imports of cotton yarn (tariff heading 55.05) originating in, or consigned to the UK from, Turkey or Greece, for the period ending 31 March 1975.

As the EEC negotiations with Greece and Turkey in this context have not been completed, the existing licensing arrangements will be extended for a period of three months up to 30 June 1975.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-215 5638.

Export pictures

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story, with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your news and photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Iceland

Global quotas for 1975. The Icelandic Ministry of Commerce has announced the following global quotas into Iceland during 1975.

Icelandic customs tariff no.	Commodity	Million Value
ex 09.01.11	Coffee roasted in retail packings of 2 kg. or less	Kr. 10
17.04.01	Sweetened liquorice and liquorice preparations	Kr. 90
17.04.03	Sugar bonbons, sweet tablets and lozenges	
17.04.04	Chewing gum, whether or not covered with sugar	
17.04.05	Caramels	
17.04.09	Other sugar confectionery, not containing cocoa	
18.06.09	Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa	
96.01.00	Brooms and brushes, consisting of twigs or other vegetable materials merely bound together and not mounted in a head (for example, besoms and whisks), with or without handles	Kr 8
ex 96.02.01 ex 96.02.09	Other brooms and brushes except squeegees and mops	

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/459/461.

Republic of Ireland

Industrial standard for toys. The Minister for Industry and Commerce has made the Industrial Research and Standards (Section 44) (Children's Toys) (Amendment) Order 1975. Under this Order it shall be unlawful to manufacture, assemble or sell, in the Republic of Ireland, a child's toy unless it complies with Irish Standard 165:1968 as amended (this is the standard specification for toxicity and cellulosic content of children's toys declared by the Institute for Industrial Research and Standards). Copies of Irish Standard 165:1968 are available from Standards Division, Institute for Industrial Research and Standards, Ballymun Road, Dublin 9. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 466/467/288.

Belgium

Foodstuffs regulations: sugar. The *Moniteur Belge* No. 42, 28 February 1975, published a decree dated 15 January 1975 concerning sugars. The decree enters into force on 17 December 1975. An English translation is being prepared but copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Luxembourg

Foodstuffs: value added tax reduced. The *Luxembourg Memorial* A93, 28 December 1974, published a decree dated 27 December 1974 concerning the reduction of the rate of value added tax on certain foodstuffs. The 5 per cent rate is now applicable to some or all goods within Brussels Nomenclature tariff headings 04.02, 09.01 to 09.10, 12.07, 15.03 to 15.07, 15.12, 15.13, 20.07, 21.01 to 21.03, 22.10 and 30.03. The decree entered into force on 1 January 1975. An English translation is being prepared but copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Austria

Product Declaration Sign. *Trade and Industry*, 16 May 1974, informed British exporters of the important voluntary system of product marking regulated by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, which permits the use of the Product Declaration Sign on certain electrical and other equipment provided specified technical information is displayed in a standardised form. The Product Declaration Sign is coming to be regarded as a mark of quality and may prove a valuable sales asset.

The Austrian *Bundesgesetzblatt*, 16 January 1975, published the text of three decrees which detail the technical data required and other conditions to be fulfilled under the Product Declaration system in respect of cassette tape recorders (supersedes Decree 44 of 13 December 1972), record players and stereo equipment. Copies of these decrees in German are available to British exporters on request. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Packaging and labelling of washing powders. *Bundesgesetzblatt* 692, 22 November 1974, published the text of the Washing Agent Labelling Decree 1974, which introduces more comprehensive packaging and labelling regulations for washing powders than were required under the Washing Agent Labelling Decree 1973. Washing powders which do not comply with the provisions of the 1974 decree and which are imported into Austria before 1 July 1975 may be put on the market until 31 December 1975 as long as the goods comply with the 1973 decree. Unofficial translations of both these decrees are available on request. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

EXPORT TO AFRICA

Offers invited on behalf Paris-based organisation with personnel visiting all areas regularly. Specialise in selling to French speaking areas. Interested: Buiiding material, pre-fab sheds, tools, hardware, industrial chemicals.

Contact: Iver Lunn & Co. Ltd., 11 Kingsway, WC2B 6YT

New consumer protection measures. Austrian *Bundesgesetzblatt* 86, 18 February 1975, published the text of a new Consumer Law which regulates traffic in foodstuffs, including fancy goods and additives, cosmetics and containers, wrappers, coverings and other equipment for use in connection with foodstuffs and cosmetics; household washing agents, disinfectants, air-fresheners, pesticides; household paints, stains, varnishes, glues; toys, colours for picture books, water colours and artists' colours; novelties; candles; carpets and floor coverings, curtains, furnishing fabrics, wigs, clothing, bed linen and products which are used to treat the above; equipment for the care of the body, and all other products which come into contact with the body and which might endanger health. The new law seeks to protect the consumer from health risks occurring in articles in everyday use. The main provisions of the law come into effect on 1 July 1975. An unofficial translation of the law is in preparation. Meanwhile, copies of the original German text are available to British exporters. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Switzerland

Speciality spirituous beverages. Swiss *Recueil* No. 7 of 24 February 1975 announced that from 1 March 1975 the tax on speciality spirituous beverages will be 18.50 francs per litre of 100 per cent alcohol. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 460/461.

Yugoslavia

Import duty exemptions and reductions in 1975. Under legislation published in the Yugoslav *Official Gazette* No. 9, 21 February 1975 (Item 116), goods classified under the following BN headings imported into Yugoslavia during 1975 are either exempt from import duty or subject to reduced rates of duty as set down below:

EXEMPTIONS
BN headings 15.07 1a, 5a; 17.01 3a; 27.10 3b*; 37.02 2; 41.01 1, 2, 3, 4, 5*, 6a*; 41.02 2a-2; 41.04 1b, 2b

REDUCED BY 80%
BN headings 23.01 2; 23.04; 26.01 10a*; 27.04 1a, 1b, 1c*; 40.01 4*; 40.02 1*, 2*; 48.01 2*; 73.07; 75.01 3*; 80.01 2; ex 84.06

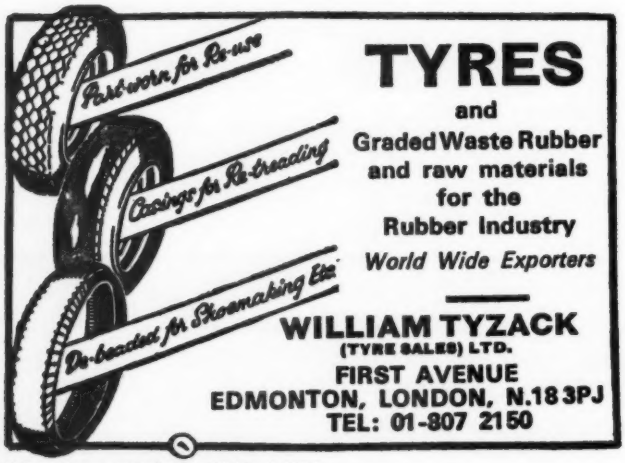
REDUCED BY 60%
BN headings 26.01 6b*, 7b*; 28.20 1*; 28.29 1a*; 28.35 1a*; 47.01 3, 4-7*; 48.07 1*; 51.01 1a, 1c, 2a, 2b, 2e; 53.01 1; 53.05; 56.01 1, 2; 56.02; 58.04 1a; 73.02 2e, 2g-1, 2i, 2k, 2l, 2m; 73.08; 73.12 1a

REDUCED BY 40%
BN headings 37.02 1b*; 73.12 2; 73.13 1-2, 3, 4, 5; 73.15 7-10, 20-22, 24; 74.01 3, 4*; 76.01 2a, 2b, 2c*; 82.05 3b*

REDUCED BY 80% (SPARES FOR LARGE SIZE SHIP'S ENGINES)
BN headings 73.20 2; 73.29 1; 73.40 1, 2; 84.06; 84.10 3, 5; 84.11 5; 84.18 2b; 84.50 2m; 84.61 1; 84.63 3, 4 – all these 'ex' items

* Within a quota [not specified].

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.



Spain

Global quotas: additional list. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 3 March 1975 amended additional tariff headings to be incorporated in 14 of the global quotas numbers announced in the *State Gazette*, 27 December 1974 (published in *Trade and Industry*, 23 January 1975). The annual value of those quotas has been increased with the exception of quota No. 35, where tariff heading 58.06 has been included.

In the *State Gazette*, 8 March 1975, applications for import licences for the first half of this year were invited for those goods which have been incorporated in 12 of the quota numbers (whose half yearly value is shown below), and must be presented within 30 days from 8 March 1975.

Quota no.	Goods	Tariff no.	Value of quota (pesetas)
10	Glass manufactures	ex 70.13.B.1 70.21.A 70.21.B	16,750,000
11	Imitation jewellery and other manufactures	71.12 71.13 71.14	5,700,000
15	Saws and blades	ex 82.06.A ex 82.06.B	12,250,000
19	Surface-active preparations	34.03.B ex 38.07 ex 38.08 38.19.F.2 ex 38.19.G 38.19.H 38.19.J ex 38.19.K	85,807,648
23	Pyrotechnic articles and matches	29.03.B.2 36.01 36.02 36.03 ex 36.04	11,945,000
27	Other polymerisation and copolymerisation products	39.02.G.2 39.02.G.3 39.02.L.2 ex 39.02.M.1 ex 39.02.M.2 ex 39.03.A	16,194,720
30	Cotton yarns and other yarns	57.06 57.07.C	43,846,135
31	Fabrics of various fibres	57.10 ex 57.11	1,200,000
*35	Other textile manufactures	58.06	
37	Outer garments	ex 61.02.E	700,000
41	Sewing machines and their parts	ex 84.41.C	1,050,000
49	Industrial motor vehicles and parts for their manufacture	87.03	228,600,000

Quota numbers 13 and 48 had additional tariff headings incorporated, both are permanently opened and read as follows:

Quota no.	Goods	Tariff no.	Annual value (pesetas)
13	Unwrought lead and its manufactures	78.01 78.02 78.03 78.04 78.05 78.06	60,000,000
48	Tractors and the parts for the manufacture of tractors	87.01.A 87.01.B.2 ex 87.06	926,030,364

* Quota No. 35 value published in *Trade and Industry*, 23 January 1975, includes tariff heading 58.06.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Opening of global quotas. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 3 March 1975, published a complimentary list of global quotas for 1975, quota numbers 59 to 83 inclusive as follows:

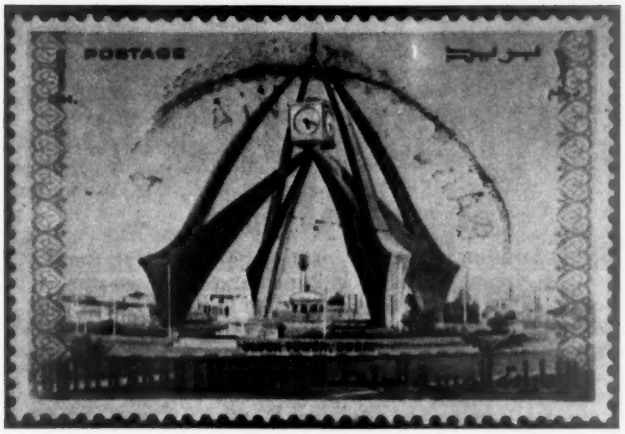
Quota no.	Goods	Tariff no.	Annual value (pesetas)
59	Pyrites and sulphur	25.02 25.03	249,000,000
60	Lead ores and roasted lead ores	26.01.E 26.03.A	200,000,000
61	Cokable coal	ex 27.01.A	340,000,000
62	Inorganic chemical products	28.02 28.14.A 28.15.B 28.41.B.3 ex 28.46.B	18,785,855
63	Chemical elements and radioactive isotopes	28.50 28.51	180,000,000

Quota no.	Goods	Tariff no.	Annual value (pesetas)
64	Organic chemical products	ex 29.25.I 29.44.A 29.44.B	19,000,000
65	Vegetable alkaloids	29.42.A 29.42.C	110,000
66	Sera	ex 30.02.A.2 ex 30.02.B.2	9,061,710
67	Medicines	ex 30.03.A.2 30.03.B.2	175,810,000
68	Varnishes, dyes, pigments and similar preparations	32.09.A ex 32.09.D	66,874,098
69	Other condensation, polycondensation and polyaddition products	39.01.C ex 39.01.K	58,461,513
70	Non-liberalised wood manufactures	44.15 44.16 44.18 48.09	26,306,470
71	Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones and similar products	71.01 71.02.B ex 71.04	450,000,000
72	Precious metals, precious metal-plated products, either raw or semi-finished	71.05 71.06 ex 71.09 71.10 71.11	350,000,000
73	Rolled gold products	71.08	10,000,000
74	Iron and steel containers	ex 73.23	39,000,000
75	Stoves, heaters, cookers, gas-rings, etc., as well as their parts of cast iron or steel	73.36	21,500,000
76	Other copper manufactures	74.19.E 74.19.F	19,500,000
77	Other aluminium manufactures	ex 76.15 71.16.B	21,500,000
78	Cutlery, knives, etc., made of iron or steel	82.09 82.10 82.11.A 82.11.C 82.11.D 82.11.E 82.14	39,000,000
79	Non-liberalised marine engines and parts for their manufacture	ex 84.06.B.2.b ex 84.06.B.2.c 84.06.B.2.d 84.06.C.1 ex 84.06.D.2	429,692,120
80	Non-liberalised motor pumps and motor compressors	ex 84.10.F.2.a ex 84.10.F.2.b ex 84.11.D.3	77,948,684
81	Other vehicles, not self-propelled and their parts	87.14	27,984,807
82	Watch cases	91.09.A ex 91.10	800,000
83	Other manufactures	98.01.A.2.b 98.01.A.2.d 98.01.B 98.12.A	4,500,000

In the Spanish *State Gazette*, 13 March 1975, the Spanish authorities invited applications from Spanish importers, merchants and industrialists against 50 per cent of the annual value of the above quotas. Applications must be presented within 20 days from 13 March for quota numbers 82 and 83, and within 30 days for the other quota numbers above. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.



The export office of Gent and Company Ltd., Leicester recently received a letter from the United Arab Emirates bearing this stamp. Not only did the letter bring news of more orders from the Arab world but the stamp bears an illustration of a clock tower in Dubai – the clock itself having been manufactured by Gent of Leicester some years ago. The clock tower stands on a traffic island in the middle of Dubai.

Lebanon

Tariff amendments. The Lebanese authorities have issued the following amendments to the Customs tariff. Sub-headings not mentioned in the table are unchanged.

Tariff no.	Description	Rate of duty
39.01	Condensation, polycondensation and polyaddition products, etc.	
	b Other	
26	3 Polyester bars/rods intended for the manufacture of buttons and beads (1)	1% *ad val.*
29	4 Other	18% *ad val.*
39.03	Regenerated cellulose, cellulose nitrate, cellulose acetate and other cellulose esters, etc.	
64	b 5 Tapes intended for the manufacture of spangles (paillettes) (1)	8% *ad val.*

(1) Reduced duty applicable subject to compliance with the conditions and provisions stipulated by the Customs Administration.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

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We are on the Official List of Stockists.
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These forms are for use in respect of all shipments from British ports as from 1st April 1975. These are the approved Standard Shipping Notes recommended by the SITRO Board.

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The Arab Bank has branches in Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Bahrain, Dubai, Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Ras Alkhaimah, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah, Tunisia, Yemen Arab Republic

the ARAB BANK

General Management: Amman — Established 1930

Capital & Reserves	17,120,000 Jordan Dinars
Deposits	276,100,615 Jordan Dinars
Total Assets	452,162,130 Jordan Dinars

As at December 31st, 1974

ARAB BANK LIMITED
EMPIRE HOUSE, ST. MARTIN'S LE GRAND, LONDON EC1P 1DR
Telephone 01-606 7801 Telex 884359
Cables Bankarabi London EC1

Morocco

Engine parts: import duties. The Moroccan authorities have announced an amendment to the tariff nomenclature for engine parts (84.06D) and the import duties applicable. This now reads as follows:

84.06D	Parts:	
I	for aircraft engines	10%
II	rough cast parts for other engines	Free
III	Other:	
a)	cylinder blocks, sumps, cylinder heads, cylinders and cylinder liners	15%

The remainder of this subheading is unchanged. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Ghana

Prohibited imports. The following Notice to Importers was published in the *Ghana Commercial and Industrial Bulletin* of 7 March 1975.

It is announced by the Ministry of Trade and Tourism for the information of all importers and the general public that with immediate effect the importation in commercial quantities of the following items has been banned whether or not the goods have already been paid for in the country of origin or consignment:

1 Wax prints
2 Ladies plastic hand and shopping bags
3 Razor shaving blades.

Importers are warned that penalties attached to the breach of this notice are severe and that any of the above-mentioned items which may be imported into the country in commercial quantities after the publication of this notice will be confiscated. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473/472/471/462.

Zambia

Import licences. Further to the notices published in *Trade and Industry*, 6 and 13 February 1975, the Department of Trade has received further information to the effect that although import licence re-examination has been completed, some importers may not yet have received their re-validated licences, due to postal and administrative delays. Where re-validated licences have been received by importers, foreign exchange transactions are back to normal.

Of recalled licences which were not already committed, only those covering goods for the mining industry and other essentials will be re-validated. A similar priority will apply to quotas for the first and second quarters of 1975. Firms who consider that their committed licences have not been re-allocated may appeal.

In view of this, it is suggested that for the time being British companies would be well advised to ask for photostat copies of re-validated licences, before shipping. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473.

Mozambique

Imports control. Notices in *Trade and Industry*, 5 and 26 December 1974, gave details of import control measures taken by the Mozambique authorities. On 25 February 1975 new rules were published for the grant of import quotas.

An additional qualification has been introduced (*contingentes de importacao*) under which the authorities will fix a maximum allocation of foreign exchange to be spent on nominated imports. This allocation will then be divided among potential importers according to their eligibility based on past operations. Raw materials for local industry may be imported only by the firms concerned, materials for processing locally being allowed only in accordance with their position on the priorities list (see final paragraph below).

Goods destined for the development of agriculture to be imported by registered agricultural co-operatives or concerns involved in agriculture, cattle and fishing are not subject to quotas, which apply, however, to all other importers registered with the Servicos de Comercio (Government Commercial Services).

Priority will be given to the following:

a Basic products to satisfy the essential requirements of the population
b Pharmaceutical and similar products
c Equipment and products for the agricultural, cattle and fishing sectors
d Fuel and lubricants
e Spare parts for machinery, vehicles and other equipment

f Raw materials and equipment for industries producing goods considered to be essential.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 460/461.

South Africa

Tariff application: staples. Customs Tariff Application List 660, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 21 March 1975, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on staples classifiable under tariff subheadings 73.31.20 and 83.05.30.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE (tel. 01-215 5274).

Seychelles

Customs tariff amendments. Statutory Instrument No. 92 of 1974, published in the *Seychelles Gazdtte*, 2 November 1974, amends, with effect from that date, Schedule A to the Customs Tariff by the deletion of item 25 and the substitution therefor of the following new item:

SCHEDULE A – RATES OF IMPORT DUTY

Description of goods	Duty how chargeable	Rates of duty	
		General	Preferential
		Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
25 Oils other than pharmaceutical preparations and perfumed oils:			
a Vegetable and animal oils (edible)	Per 100 kilos	15.00	12.00
b Mineral oils nes:			
i heavy fuel oils	Per 100 litres	7.20	7.20
ii kerosene and paraffin	Per 100 litres	5.00	5.00
iii petrol, benzine and other motor spirits	Per 100 litres	33.30	33.30
iv lubricating oils	Per litre	0.15	0.15
v lubricating greases	Per litre	0.30	0.30

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Fireworks: import control. Statutory Instrument No. 94 of 1974 published in the *Seychelles Gazette*, 4 November 1974, announced that from 1 January 1975 importation of any bangers, petards or other fireworks whatever, save those imported by the Government or imported under licence issued by the Government, would be prohibited. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section,
Export Data Branch
Export Services and Promotions Division
Department of Trade
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Australia

Whitegoods: tariff changes. Details are given below of changes in the Australian customs tariff, as set out in Customs Tariff Alteration Notice No. 5 (1975), operative on and from 12 March 1975.

ALTERATIONS TO PART II OF SCHEDULE 1 TO THE CUSTOMS TARIFF 1966-74

Tariff item	Goods	Rates of duty	
		General	Preferential
1 Omit sub-items 84.15.2 and 84.15.9, substitute the following sub-items:			
84.15.2	Electrical refrigerators (including electrical refrigerators incorporating or combined with freezers), of a kind commonly used for domestic purposes, of 200 litres or more gross internal capacity, but not including parts therefor specified in sub-item 84.15.1:		
84.15.21	Of a gross internal capacity not exceeding 454 litres, but not including parts therefor:		
84.15.211	As prescribed by by-law	25%	25%
84.15.219	Other	25%, and a temporary duty of 22.5%	25%, and a temporary duty of 22.5%
84.15.22	Of a gross internal capacity exceeding 454 litres, but not including parts therefor:		
84.15.221	As prescribed by by-law	To and including 3 February 1976 – 30%; From and including 4 February 1976 – 25%	25%
84.15.229	Other	To and including 3 February 1976 – 30%, and a temporary duty of 17.5%; From and including 4 February 1976 – 25%, and a temporary duty of 17.5%	25%, and a temporary duty of 17.5%
84.15.23	Parts:		
84.15.231	For goods of a kind falling within paragraph 84.15.21	25%	25%
84.15.239	Other	To and including 3 February 1976 – 30%; From and including 4 February 1976 – 25%	25%
84.15.3	Refrigerators and freezers, of 454 litres gross internal capacity or less, not being goods falling within sub-item 84.15.2 that are entered for home consumption on or before 3 February 1976, but not including parts therefor specified in sub-item 84.15.1	25%	25%
84.15.9	Other	To and including 3 February 1976 – 30%; From and including 4 February 1976 – 25%	25%
2 Omit sub-item 84.40.2, substitute the following sub-item:			
84.40.2	Laundry machines of a kind commonly used for domestic purposes that are entered for home consumption on or after 4 February 1976:		
84.40.21	As prescribed by by-law	25%	25%
84.40.22	Cothes drying machines, but not including parts therefor	25%, and a temporary duty of 20%	25%, and a temporary duty of 20%
84.40.23	Washing machines, including washing machines incorporating or combined with clothes drying machines, but not including parts therefor	25%, and a temporary duty of 15%	25%, and a temporary duty of 15%
84.40.29	Other	25%	25%

Tariff item	Goods	Rates of duty	
		General	Preferential
3 Omit sub-item 84.40.7, substitute the following sub-item:			
84.40.7	Laundry machines, including manually operated pressing machines, washing and cleaning machines and garment formers (finishers), being machines of a kind commonly used for domestic purposes that are entered for home consumption on or before 3 February 1976:		
84.40.71	Clothes drying machines, but not including parts therefor:		
84.40.711	As prescribed by by-law	25%	25%
84.40.719	Other	25%, and a temporary duty of 20%	25%, and a temporary duty of 20%
84.40.72	Washing machines, including washing machines incorporating or combined with clothes drying machines, but not including parts therefor:		
84.40.721	As prescribed by by-law	30%	25%
84.40.729	Other	30%, and a temporary duty of 15%	25%, and a temporary duty of 15%
84.40.73	Parts for goods falling within paragraph 84.40.71	25%	25%
84.40.79	Other	30%	25%

Ref. CRE 4/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Sheets and plates of iron or steel: Temporary Assistance Authority findings. The Australian Temporary Assistance Authority has released the following brief details of its inquiry into sheets and plates of iron or steel. Import restrictions are to be imposed, with effect from 1 January 1975 and based on a level of not more than one-quarter of the imports on a weight basis for the two calendar years 1972-73 on:

1 Hot rolled sheets and plates of iron or steel not exceeding 3.2 mm. in thickness, and
2 Cold rolled sheets and plates of iron or steel (tariff item 73.13.1).

Also under the original reference but not covered by these restrictions are galvanised sheets and plates of iron or steel.

Full details of the quotas will be published as soon as they are available.

Ref. CRE 292/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Certain textile items: Textile Authority reference. The Australian Textile Authority has received a reference on certain textile items, viz. knitted coats, jumpers, cardigans, sweaters, shirts, blouses, dresses, track suits, romper suits, play suits and like garments (tariff item 60.05.19) and shirts (tariff items 61.02.1, 61.02.2, 61.02.4 and 61.04.3).

Tariff details of these goods may be obtained from Overseas Tariff and Regulations Section, Export Data Branch, Export House (OTAR ext. 468/469/401).

Exporters should note, that the Australian Prime Minister has made it clear that, should the need for urgent action emerge from these inquiries, goods ordered overseas but not cleared for home consumption at the date of the announcement of any action, will be subject to the terms of the action. Australian importers have been urged therefore to exercise caution in placing orders overseas and in entering into financial commitments on such orders, as special consideration may not be given to outstanding commitments should action be taken by the Government.

UK trade associations or firms intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay through their accredited agent. Interested parties should indicate the goods with which they are concerned and whether, in their evidence at the public hearings, they will be seeking the continuation of the current rates of duty or a change in these rates.

Evidence may be submitted either directly by the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London, SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447). The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Ref. CRE 502/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Certain plastics: further information. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 14 March 1975, reported a reference to the Temporary Assistance Authority on certain plastics. Exporters should note, that the Australian Prime Minister has made it clear that, should the need for urgent action emerge from these inquiries, goods ordered overseas but not cleared for home consumption at the date of the announcement of any action, will be subject to the terms of the action. Australian importers have been urged therefore to exercise caution in placing orders overseas and in entering into financial commitments on such orders, as special consideration may not be given to outstanding commitments should action be taken by the Government.

Ref. CRE 501/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Modifications to restrictions on overseas borrowings. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 28 February, page 543, referred to Australian Government measures on overseas borrowings as being announced on 14 February. The announcement in fact took place on 14 January. Ref. CRE 25987/5. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5318.

New Zealand

Poisons regulations amendment. The New Zealand Government has issued the Poisons Regulations 1964, Amendment No. 11, which came into force on 27 March 1975. This amendment contains several deletions and additions to the original regulations.

Loan copies can be obtained from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Drug tariff amendment. The New Zealand Government has issued the Drug Tariff 1974 Amendment No. 2 which came into force on 1 April 1975. The amendment contains deletions and insertions to the original Drug Tariff.

Loan copies can be obtained from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Food additives notice. The New Zealand Government has issued the Food Additives Notice 1975 which will be operative for 12 months from 27 February 1975. The notice:

Specifies the maximum quantity of certain release agents which may be lawfully contained in bakery products.

Specifies the maximum quantity of dioctyl sodium sulphosuccinate (a suspending agent) which may lawfully be contained in certain syrups, cordials, and drinks, and in drink flavour and drink concentrate.

Permits residues of certain named pesticides to be contained in certain foods in specified quantities.

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

A free pamphlet, *Government Statistics – a brief guide to sources*, gives up-to-date contact points in Departments for further information. You can obtain copies from regional offices of the Department of Industry or by writing to the Central Statistical Office Press and Information Service, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

Details of the above specifications are as follows:

Permitted substances in food/ for which standards are prescribed: Notwithstanding anything in the Food and Drug Regulations 1973*, any food specified in the first column of the First Schedule to this notice may contain not more than the quantities specified in the third column of that Schedule of the substances specified in the second column of that Schedule in relation to that food.

Permitted incidental constituents: Notwithstanding anything in regulation 24 (2) of the Food and Drug Regulations 1973*, any food specified in the second column of the Second Schedule to this notice may contain not more than the quantity specified in the third column of that Schedule of residue of the pesticide specified in the first column of that Schedule in relation to that food.

* SR 1973/79 Amendment No. 1 : SR 1974/188.

FIRST SCHEDULE: PERMITTED SUBSTANCES IN FOOD

Food	Compound	Permissible proportion (parts per million by weight)
Bakery products	Polyglycerol polylinoleate	50
	Polyglycerol polyricinoleate	50
Fruit flavoured syrup, fruit flavoured cordial, artificial syrup, artificial cordial, fruit flavoured drink, artificial drink, drink flavour, and drink concentrate	Dioctyl sodium sulphosuccinate	5

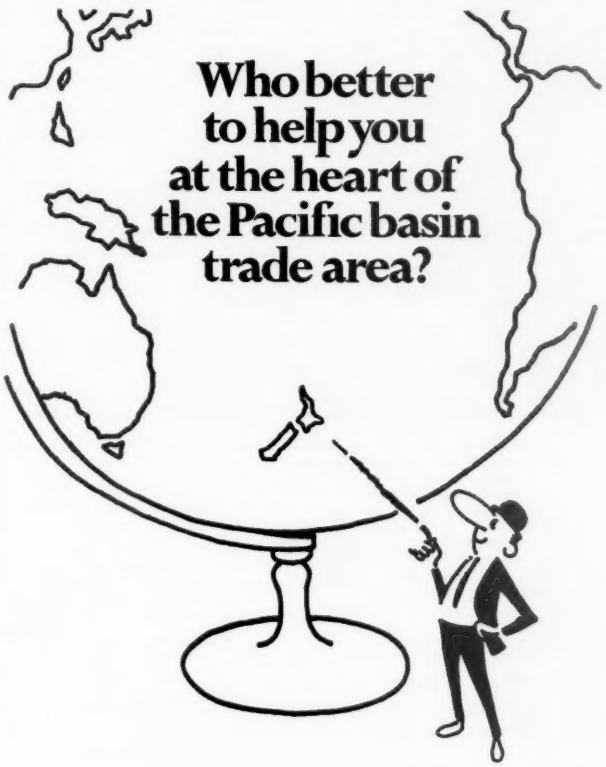
SECOND SCHEDULE: PROPORTION OF PESTICIDES IN FOOD

Pesticide	Food	Permissible proportion (parts per million by weight)
Azinphos-methyl or azinphos-ethyl	Vegetables	2
Benzoximate	Pome fruits	0.2
Carboxin	Grain crops	0.2
Chlorethephon	Tomatoes	1
	Pome fruits	2
Dichlofluanid	Small fruits	10
Propargite	Pome fruits	3
Propoxur	Root and tuber vegetables	3
Sec-butylamine	Citrus fruit	30

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Tariff amendments. The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Composite) Amendment Order 1975, which came into force on 28 February 1975, amending items in the New Zealand customs tariff. The tariff items are 27.07.003, 29.01.202, 84.47.001, 84.47.002, 84.47.003, 84.47.009, and 90.16.009. These items now read as follows:

No.	Description	Unit	Rate of duty effective on and after 1 July Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 27						
Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances: mineral waxes						
27.07	Oils and other products of the distillation of high temperature coal tar; similar products as defined in Note 2 to this Chapter:					
27.07.003	Naphthalene, crude	kg.	1974	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free DC Free CPC Free
CHAPTER 29						
Organic chemicals						
1 Hydrocarbons and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives						
29.01	Hydrocarbons:					
29.01.202	Naphthalene, refined	kg.	1974	15%	15%	Aul Free Can Free DC Free CPC Free
CHAPTER 84						
Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof						
84.47	Machine-tools for working wood, cork, bone, ebonite (vulcanite), hard artificial plastic materials or other hard carving materials, other than machines falling within heading No. 84.49:					
	Sawing:					
84.47.011	As may be determined by the Minister	kg.	1974	45%*	45%*	Aul 25%* Can 25%* CPC 25%*



The National Bank
OF NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

London address: 8 Moorgate, EC2R 6DB
Telephone: 01-606 8311

As part of the Lloyds Bank Group, The National Bank of New Zealand can offer through its representative offices in Tokyo and Singapore and the Group's representation in the Pacific and surrounding areas, a banking service which meets the needs of modern business in the Pacific Basin.

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No.	Description	Unit	Rate of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
84.47.019	Other	kg.	1974	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
	Planing and moulding:					
84.47.021	As may be determined by the Minister	kg.	1974	45%*	45%*	Aul 25%* Can 25%* CPC 25%*
84.47.029	Other	kg.	1974	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
	Other kinds:					
84.47.031	As may be determined by the Minister	kg.	1974	45%*	45%*	Aul 25%* Can 25%* CPC 25%*
84.47.039	Other	kg.	1974	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free

* Or such lower rate of duty as the Minister may in any case direct.

CHAPTER 90

Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical and surgical instruments and apparatus; parts thereof

90.16	Drawing, marking-out and mathematical calculating instruments, drafting machines, pantographs, slide rules, disc calculators and the like; measuring or checking instruments, appliances and machines, not falling within any other heading of this Chapter (for example, micrometers, callipers, gauges, measuring rods, balancing machines): profile projectors:					
90.16.005	Rules and rulers, whether or not graduated	..	1974	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
90.16.008	Other	..	1974 1975 1976 1977	18% 16% 14% 10%	2% 4% 6% 10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free

Aul = Australia
Can = Canada
DC = Developing Countries
CPC = Commonwealth Preference Countries

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

United States

Confectionery labelling. The US *Federal Register*, 13 March 1975, published proposed rules for the exemption of labelling of individually wrapped pieces of confectionery. Comments (five copies) by 12 May 1975. A copy of the text is available from OTAR ext. 456/457/7312.

Frozen minced fish blocks. The US *Federal Register*, 13 March 1975, published proposed rules for standards of grades of frozen minced fish blocks for processing into fish fingers and other products. A copy of the text is available from OTAR ext. 456/457/7312.

Canada

Tariff changes. The following changes have been announced to the Canadian customs tariff:

NEW EXPIRY DATES

1 Tariff items 35420-1, 52260-1, 54110-1 and 93902-85 now expire '30 June 1975'
2 Tariff items 1001-3, 35415-1, 43890-1 and 43891-1 now expire '31 October 1975'
3 Tariff items 6906-1, 18120-1, 20215-1, 29660-1, 34845-1, 34925-1, 35255-1, 35318-1, 37920-1, 38015-1, 38210-1, 42920-1, 43235-1, 43240-1, 43858-1, 43899-1, 44553-1, 46325-1, 46330-1, 56030-1, 56170-1, 56187-1, 56197-1, 56305-1, 60815-1, 86700-1 and 93901-47 now expire '28 February 1976'
4 Tariff items 32669-1, 35121-1, 35250-1, 43873-1, 44519-1, 44582-1, 52220-1, 52240-1, 52245-1, 53240-1, 56117-1, 56145-1, 56150-1, 56160-1, 56237-1, 61830-1, 61835-1, 62413-1, 86600-1, 92811-2, 92914-10, 92916-10 and 93901-76 now expire '28 February 1977'
5 Tariff items 18745-1, 19825-1, 20225-1, 23810-1, 34835-1, 34930-1, 38235-1, 38270-1, 44558-1, 50620-1, 50905-1, 56175-1, 56227-1, 59605-1, 92854-2 and 93901-48 now expire '28 February 1978'
6 Tariff items 12310-1, 41508-1, 41509-1, 43225-1, 44554-1, and 44560-1 now expire '28 February 1979'

AMENDED ITEMS

Tariff item	Description	Expiry date	British preferential tariff	Most favoured nation tariff	General tariff
23245-1	Animal glue for use in manufacture of gummed tapes, coated abrasives, greaseless abrasive compounds and matches	28.2.76	Free	Free	25 pc
34730-1	Bars, rods, plate, sheet, strip wire, forgings, castings, foils and tubes, seamless or welded, of zirconium or zirconium alloys for use in the manufacture of nuclear power reactors, including fuel components	28.2.76	Free	Free	25 pc
42530-1	Semi pneumatic tyres and solid tyres for use in the manufacture of lawn mowers	30.6.76	5 pc	7½ pc	32½ pc
60440-1	Goat, kid, cabretta and cape leathers other than patent leathers, for use in the manufacture of footwear and ladies handbags	28.2.76	Free	Free	27½ pc
35320-1	Aluminium powder, flaked, for use in the manufacture of explosives	28.2.76	Free	Free	30 pc
41211-1	Dampening systems, and parts thereof, for use in manufacture of offset printing presses, for the production of manifold business forms	28.2.77	Free	Free	15 pc

Chemicals and Plastics Tariff Reduction Order, is amended as follows:
After 'styrene – acrylonitile type . . . 12½ pc' opposite tariff item 93902-41 add 'Polymethyl methacrylate type . . . 10 pc'. This will be effective from 25 March 1975.

Customs Duties Drawback Regulations:
Item 97028-1 expiry date 28 February 1975 is amended to '30 June 1976'.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Health protection measures. The Health Protection Branch of the Canadian Department of Health and Welfare has announced a number of measures.

Actionable level for aflatoxin. It is considered appropriate to reduce the actionable level for aflatoxin to 15 parts per billion in nuts and nut products at the retail level. This was to become effective, at the manufacturing level, on 1 April 1975. (Information letter 433).

Proposed standards for acupuncture devices. Information letter 434 states that it is proposed to establish standards for the following types of devices:

Metallic acupuncture needles and other percutaneous devices.
Point finders.
Electrical acupuncture stimulators (therapy devices).

Proposed standards for margarine, margarine-like or butter-like products. In information letter 435, the branch announces proposed regulations for a standard for margarine. The standard would ensure more uniform requirements. Comments should be made by 21 April 1975.

Television receivers. The branch has issued information letter 436 stating that the Governor in Council proposes to make amendments to the Radiation Emitting Devices Regulations. Every television receiver must bear a permanent mark or label on its cabinet or case. The mark or label must be clearly visible and enable identification of the receiver by reference to the manufacturer.

Nutrient requirements for meats, meat extenders, mixtures or meat with meat extenders and simulated meats. Amendments have been made (information letter 431) to the Food and Drug Regulations to require the following:

That all fresh cooked meats contain a minimum amount of protein; that meat extenders have a nutritional requirement; that simulated meat products be nutritionally equivalent to the meat products they resemble, and that such products be labelled in a meaningful manner.

Details of all these items are available from OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Chile

Tariff amendment and duty reductions. Decree 153 published on 5 March 1975 introduced the following changes in the Chilean customs tariff:

a The breakdown of the following sub-heading has been shortened and the duties reduced:

Tariff no.	Description	Rate of duty *ad valorem* cif
39.03.02.00	Regenerated cellulose (Cellophane):	
	(01) Sausage casings	40%
	(99) Other	100%

b The duty rates of the following goods have been reduced and are now:

Tariff no.	Description	Rate of duty *ad valorem* cif
27.01.01.02	Bituminous coal	5%
27.04. (01)	Metallurgical coke	5%
40.01.02.99	Natural rubber: other	25%
79.01.01.00	Zinc ingots, unalloyed	5%
80.01.01.00	Tin ingots, unalloyed	20%

There is no further information. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Exchange rates. The Chilean Central Bank has announced the following revised exchange rates effective from 10 March 1975:

'Bank' rate raised from 2,320 escudos to 2,550 escudos per US dollar;

'Brokers' rate raised from 2,900 escudos to 3,150 escudos per US dollar.

Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5289.

Colombia

Radioactive materials. By Decree 137 of 27 January 1975, some deposits of radioactive materials have been declared special reserves. A translation of the decree is available from CRE tel. 01-215 5288.

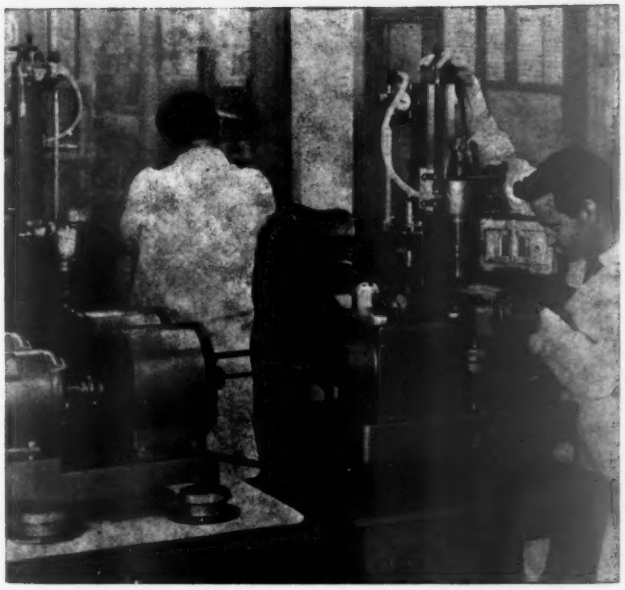
Paraguay

Customs valuation of imports. Law 489 changes the basis of valuation but, although it came into force on 11 February 1975, it has not yet been fully applied and may not be in complete operation for some months. Customs valuation, described as being the 'true market value of goods . . . at the time of arrival in Customs' is, for the purpose of this law the cif value. Under the previous system the value which served as the basis on which *ad valorem* taxes and charges were levied was the fob value, plus 20 per cent.

A charge of ½ per cent of the Customs valuation will be levied on imports to cover the administrative expenses.

Until such time as this law becomes fully operative, the value of imports is being based on insurance and freight costs plus the invoiced value where applicable, or the fixed value previously set by the Comision de Avaluacion Aduanera (now replaced by the Servicio de Valoracion Aduanera) for the goods.

A summary of the law or a copy of the full text, in Spanish, is available from OTAR ext. 474/476.



Final assembly of the Weissenberg Rhoegoniometer, a testing machine whose uses range from developing artifical fluid for body joints (to aid rheumatism sufferers) to checking that toothpaste will flow evenly from the tube in a cold bathroom. The makers, Sangamo Weston Controls Ltd., have received a £25,000 order from Japan for three machines. Japan has now bought 24 machines at a cost of about £200,000. The Sangamo sales list now includes 20 countries, including the United States (the main export customer) and the USSR. Orders are expected soon from Mexico, Israel and Hungary.

Guyana

Importing through the External Trade Bureau. The Guyana authorities have stated in a recent *Gazette* that importers are now required to import the following products through the External Trade Bureau:

Cosmetics
Toilet preparations
Toilet paper
Tyres and tubes for bicycles, motor-cars, lorries (trucks), trailers, buses, vans, station wagons and land rovers
Wire rods and other rods of iron or steel
Joists, angles, girders, shapes, sections, bars and sheets of iron and steel
Sewing machines and spare parts for sewing machines
Bicycles and spare parts for bicycles

Importers are requested to get in touch with the External Trade Bureau for advice on the procedures for importing these products. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Advertising in 'Trade and Industry'

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Trade and Industry continues to be published for the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection by Her Majesty's Stationery Office and all existing contracts and agreements will continue unchanged.

Her Majesty's Stationery Office will continue to handle all circulation and distribution matters and subscription inquiries, and queries should continue to be addressed to them.

European Community

Economic Indicators of the EEC

These tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves; international publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented by later reports where possible. In addition to the Member States of the EEC, the United States and Japan have been included for comparison.

The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned.

An extensive bibliography – 'Sources of Statistics: 2. The European Economic Community' – which lists publications in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library of the Department of Trade, is obtainable on request to the library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (Tel: 01-248 5757, ext. 368). 'Statistical News' No. 21 (May 1973), published by the Central Statistical Office, contains a selected bibliography of statistical publications of the Commission of the European Communities.

TABLE 1 **Industrial Production** (Excluding construction) Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxem-bourg	France[1]	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy[4]	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC[3,4]	*United States*	*Japan*
Weights in EEC	3.8	0.3	23.5	36.5	0.7	12.6	4.4	18.2	100.0	—	—
Weights in total	1.5	0.1	9.0	14.0	0.2	4.9	1.7	7.0	36.4	*48.4*	*13.1*
1968	88	88	84	83	90	91	81	96	87	*99*	*74*
1969	97	100	94	94	97	94	91	99	95	*104*	*88*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	103	99	104	102	105	100	106	100	102	*100*	*103*
1972	109	103	115	106	109	104	111	102	108	*108*	*110*
1973	115	115	120	114	120	114	118	111	115	*118*	*129*
1974			123			119(e)		108		*117*	*126*
1972 1st quarter	107	97	112	103	106	103	113	97	105	*103*	*106*
2nd quarter	109	102	113	105	106	104	111	102	107	*107*	*108*
3rd quarter	107	104	116	105	110	102	111	103	108	*109*	*111*
4th quarter	114	108	120	110	114	108	114	106	112	*113*	*116*
1973 1st quarter	115	115	118	113	120	105	115	110	113	*115*	*124*
2nd quarter	113	112	120	114	119	115	116	110	115	*117*	*128*
3rd quarter	114	114	122	113	119	118	119	111	116	*119*	*131*
4th quarter	117	120	122	116	121	117	121	110	117	*119*	*135*
1974 1st quarter	126	125	124	115	128	122	122	104	117	*117*	*132*
2nd quarter	126	119	125	116	125	124	121	109	119	*118*	*129*
3rd quarter	120	120	126	112		119	124	110	117	*118*	*125*
4th quarter			118(e)			110(e)		107		*114*	*119*
1973 September	115	115	120	116		118	127	111	117	*119*	*132*
October	118	116	127	115		118	130	113	117	*119*	*135*
November	121	126	123	116		117	129	111	118	*119*	*136*
December	114	117	119	116		117	121	106	116	*119*	*134*
1974 January	129	125	125	114		124	121	101	116	*118*	*133*
February	126	128	125	117		121	122	104	118	*117*	*133*
March	123	121	123	114		122	123	106	117	*116*	*131*
April	126	118	124	114		126	119	109	118	*117*	*129*
May	128	117	126	114		122	122	109	118	*118*	*132*
June	125	121	127	119		125	123	110	121	*118*	*127*
July	121	121	128	112		123	123	111		*118*	*128*
August	115	117	128	112		111	125	111		*117*	*123*
September	123	121	121	112		122	123	109		*118*	*124*
October	121	120	122	110		115	121	109		*117*	*122*
November	117	115	119	111		108	123	109		*114*	*120*
December			114(e)			107(e)		104		*111*	*114*(e)
1975 January						107(e)		108		*107*(e)	*109*(e)
February										*104*(e)	
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	nil	−0.8	−6.4	−2.9	−2.3	−7.5	−1.1	−2.4	+1.7	*−7.7*	*−7.1*
On a year earlier	2.0	−0.3	−2.5	−4.0	+5.0	−10.6	−4.9	0.9	+3.5	*−9.0*	*−14.9*

[1]Excluding clothing, wood products and furniture.
[2]Revised figures for Italy from beginning of 1973.
[3]Mining and manufacturing only.
(e) Estimated
[4]Excluding Denmark.
Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

Government Publications in London

from

Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn WC1V 6HB

TABLE 2 Unemployment seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1,2]	Den-mark[1,3]	France[3,4]	German F.R.[5]	Ireland[1]	Italy[6]	Nether-lands[3,5]	United Kingdom[5]	*United States[6]*	*Japan[7]*
1968	147	163	97	218	88	113	147	95	*69*	*108*
1969	120	129	85	120	86	108	115	94	*69*	*104*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	100	125	129	126	100	100	135	129	*122*	*111*
1972	123	125	145	166	114	114	235	142	*118*	*119*
1973	130	84	150	189	104	109	239	102	*105*	*107*
1974	148	186	188	427		294		102	*125*	
1972 1st quarter	114	155	142	143	114	106	228	149	*123*	*119*
2nd quarter	120	139	146	181	114	113	228	147	*120*	*120*
3rd quarter	125	115	148	192	117	121	241	141	*118*	*122*
4th quarter	130	89	145	176	114	117	243	132	*113*	*117*
1973 1st quarter	125	63	140	141	107	107	243	117	*108*	*110*
2nd quarter	127	104	144	187	103	133	237	106	*106*	*108*
3rd quarter	132	90	154	214	106	100	237	99	*105*	*108*
4th quarter	133	79	158	254	102	96	239	86	*104*	*102*
1974 1st quarter	131	80	168	278	102	86	270	96	*115*	*106*
2nd quarter	137	135	169	383	107	87	268	97	*114*	*112*
3rd quarter	151	204	181	483	115	91	301	106	*123*	
4th quarter	173	326	235	83			336	107	*147*	
1973 October	137	80	156	224	102	96	235	90	*100*	*106*
November	132	78	158	241	102		235	86	*104*	*104*
December	131	78	161	279	102		248	83	*107*	*96*
1974 January	131	82	166	250	105	86	270	94	*116*	*105*
February	131	78	168	268	102		267	97	*116*	*105*
March	131	78	170	315	105		270	96	*113*	*107*
April	134	94	167	360	105	87	265	96	*111*	*110*
May	135	147	168	374	105		267	96	*115*	*112*
June	141	162	172	415	112		272	99	*116*	*113*
July	145	162	176	442	110	91	291	102	*119*	*115*
August	148	201	177	480	114		304	107	*119*	*119*
September	159	248	190	527	121		309	108	*130*	*121*
October	170	310	213	562	126		320	107	*135*	*130*
November	170	330	240	580	133		333	107	*146*	*142*
December	180	339	252	546			357	..	*160*	
1975 January	186		267	464			372	119	*184*	
February	197 (e)			513 (e)				124	*183*	
Rate %	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.0	4.7	2.8	3.6	2.8	*8.2*	*1.4*
% change latest three months										
On previous three months	+12.7	+59.8	+30.7	−8.8	+13.5	+4.5	+13.8	+13.2	*+28.3*	*+14.3*
On a year earlier	+43.4	+312.1	+56.0	+90.8	+23.1	−9.1	+41.0	+32.8	*+55.6*	*+24.2*

Note: Figures of total unemployment and unemployment rates are very sensitive to the particular measures used and the sources from which they are obtained. The figures in this table to a large extent reflect the different administrative systems and social-security provisions of the countries concerned.

[1] Insured unemployed. [2] Change of basis during period. [3] Monthly data are weekly averages. [4] Unfilled applications. [5] Registered unemployed.
[6] Based on results of sample survey. [7] Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries.
[8] Numbers in latest month available as % of total employees (UK) and of total labour force (others). (e) estimated Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 3 Exports (fob) Special trade.[1] seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United King-dom[2]	EEC	*United States[2]*	*Japan[2]*
1968	8,160	2,580	12,708	24,840	792	10,188	8,340	15,348	82,956	*34,416*	*12,972*
1969	10,068	2,952	15,024	29,052	888	11,724	9,960	17,520	97,200	*37,992*	*15,984*
1970	11,592	3,288	17,940	34,188	1,032	13,188	11,772	19,356	112,356	*43,224*	*19,320*
1971	12,081	3,609	20,592	39,009	1,308	15,177	13,953	22,356	128,084	*44,211*	*23,994*
1972	15,995	4,330	25,739	46,208	1,610	18,535	16,386	24,340	153,152	*49,667*	*28,511*
1973	22,369	6,119	35,948	67,487	2,122	22,329	23,867	30,525	211,033	*71,316*	*36,853*
1974	28,164 (e)	7,703	45,835	89,236		30,109		37,831		*98,776*	*55,258* (e)
1972 1st quarter	3,582	1,056	5,913	11,025	369	4,368	3,945	6,044	36,302	*12,045*	*6,675*
2nd quarter	3,821	1,085	6,337	11,472	385	4,487	4,149	6,378	38,114	*11,676*	*6,656*
3rd quarter	3,919	1,055	6,445	11,270	413	4,556	4,025	5,389	37,072	*12,529*	*7,261*
4th quarter	4,290	1,136	7,082	12,420	436	5,165	4,267	6,529	41,325	*13,505*	*7,891*
1973 1st quarter	4,721	1,322	7,630	14,074	467	4,279	5,573	6,865	44,931	*15,441*	*8,266*
2nd quarter	5,273	1,409	8,665	16,106	509	5,170	5,872	7,672	50,676	*16,827*	*8,752*
3rd quarter	6,302	1,729	9,931	18,849	547	6,212	6,123	8,059	57,775	*18,552*	*9,336*
4th quarter	6,073	1,661	9,889	18,478	599	6,669	6,360	7,929	57,651	*20,718*	*10,499*
1974 1st quarter	6,181	1,805	10,320	20,641	590	6,375	7,276	8,304	61,514	*22,419*	*11,273*
2nd quarter	7,433	1,862	11,167	22,911	631	7,109	8,437	9,883	69,433	*24,273*	*14,018*
3rd quarter	7,318	1,954	11,882	22,388	668	8,159	8,399	10,258	71,024	*25,188*	*14,546*
4th quarter	7,232 (e)	2,082	12,466	23,296		8,466		9,386		*26,896*	*15,421* (e)
1973 October	2,102	563	3,311	6,766	201	2,054	2,268	2,653	19,918	*6,645*	*3,280*
November	1,885	532	3,394	6,474	186	1,958	2,193	2,703	19,319	*7,038*	*3,689*
December	2,086	566	3,184	5,239	212	2,657	1,897	2,573	18,414	*7,035*	*3,530*
1974 January	1,926	530	3,440	6,971	178	1,902	2,199	2,428	19,579	*7,190*	*3,626*
February	1,991	633	3,375	6,757	207	2,140	2,495	2,855	20,461	*7,591*	*3,975*
March	2,264	642	3,505	6,913	205	2,333	2,532	3,021	21,474	*7,638*	*3,672*
April	2,451	603	3,634	7,683	212	2,402	2,786	3,211	22,982	*8,261*	*4,332*
May	2,495	628	3,707	7,997	202	1,190	2,790	3,308	23,317	*7,709*	*4,833*
June	2,487	631	3,826	7,231	217	2,517	2,861	3,364	23,134	*8,301*	*4,853*
July	2,456	637	3,877	7,613	237	2,919	2,982	3,437	24,149	*8,401*	*4,877*
August	2,523	648	3,966	7,578	221	2,606	2,556	3,471	23,569	*8,447*	*5,005*
September	2,339	669	4,039	7,197	208	2,643	2,861	3,350	23,306	*8,340*	*4,664*
October	2,337	674	3,875	7,401	223	2,680	2,797	3,143		*8,741*	*5,353*
November	2,514	731	4,054	8,076	249	2,671	2,724	3,014		*9,323*	*5,246*
December	2,381 (e)	677	4,537	7,819		3,115		3,229		*8,832*	*4,822* (e)
1975 January			4,450 (e)	8,170 (e)				3,690		*9,544* (e)	*5,210* (e)
February			4,796 (e)					3,494			
% change in dollar terms latest three months											
On previous three months	−1.2	+6.6	+15.2	+8.5	−0.3	+3.8	−0.2	+9.5	+2.3	*+8.5*	*+1.7*
On a year earlier	+19.1	+25.4	+37.8	+28.8	+19.1	+27.0	+27.9	+32.6	+23.0	*+30.3*	*+40.9*
% change in national currencies latest three months											
On previous three months	−4.5	+3.8	+5.6	+0.3	+2.5	+5.1	−0.4	+7.8	−3.0[3]	*+8.5*	*+1.7*
On a year earlier	+15.7	+24.5	+23.2	+16.3	+23.6	+42.8	+30.6	+27.6	+22.0[3]	*+30.3*	*+50.2*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] Weighted average of percentage changes in national currencies
* All values are expressed in US dollars, making use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.
Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade
All others: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 4 Imports (cif) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

		Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States*[2,3]	*Japan*[2]
1968		8,304	3,216	13,980	20,148	1,176	10,248	9,288	18,960	85,320	*33,108*	*12,984*
1969		9,984	3,804	17,388	24,924	1,416	12,444	10,992	19,956	100,908	*36,048*	*15,024*
1970		11,352	4,380	19,116	29,808	1,572	14,940	13,392	21,720	116,280	*39,960*	*18,876*
1971		12,390	4,476	21,261	34,356	1,838	16,026	15,159	23,897	129,403	*45,633*	*19,716*
1972		14,903	4,971	26,665	39,783	2,113	19,284	17,142	27,831	152,692	*56,800*	*23,463*
1973		21,762	7,447	37,604	54,536	2,755	27,978	24,357	38,836	215,225	*69,121*	*38,316*
1974		28,931 (e)	9,367	53,338	68,741		40,718		54,140		*101,067*	*62,213* (e)
1972	1st quarter	3,573	1,185	6,354	9,435	495	4,458	4,095	6,848	36,443	*13,455*	*5,400*
	2nd quarter	3,630	1,136	6,454	9,997	511	4,610	4,234	6,954	37,526	*13,200*	*5,456*
	3rd quarter	3,721	1,301	6,606	9,836	511	4,895	4,233	6,530	37,633	*14,056*	*5,955*
	4th quarter	3,979	1,349	7,251	10,515	596	5,321	4,580	7,499	41,090	*15,089*	*6,652*
1973	1st quarter	4,704	1,570	7,922	11,845	618	5,355	5,416	8,275	45,706	*16,080*	*7,355*
	2nd quarter	5,241	1,753	9,004	13,168	657	6,700	5,687	9,426	51,636	*16,689*	*9,269*
	3rd quarter	5 896	2,026	10,358	14,553	744	7,837	6,717	10,238	58,369	*17,610*	*10,122*
	4th quarter	5,921	2,098	10,319	14,970	735	8,086	6,537	10,895	59,514	*19,137*	*11,570*
1974	1st quarter	6,517	2,363	11,931	15,179	839	9,351	7,258	12,218	65,656	*21,516*	*14,036*
	2nd quarter	7,691	2,387	13,633	17,402	999	9,659	8,129	14,049	73,616	*24,948*	*16,337*
	3rd quarter	7,547	2,332	14,088	17,857	1,045	11,224	8,858	13,932	76,883	*27,354*	*15,846*
	4th quarter	7,176 (e)	2,285	13,683	18,303		10,484		13,941		*27,245*	*16,123* (e)
1973	October	2,097	739	3,614	5,403	257	2,599	2,332	3,746	20,787	*6,058*	*3,621*
	November	1,975	737	3,432	5,112	254	2,205	2,157	3,625	19,497	*6,764*	*3,840*
	December	1,849	622	3,273	4,455	224	3,282	1,999	3,526	19,230	*6,315*	*4,109*
1974	January	2,181	784	3,755	5,074	233	2,439	2,252	3,552	20,270	*6,456*	*3,987*
	February	2,148	776	3,968	4,814	272	3,337	2,348	4,123	21,786	*7,314*	*5,135*
	March	2,188	803	4,208	5,291	334	3,575	2,658	4,543	23,600	*7,746*	*4,914*
	April	2,389	818	4,394	5,666	327	3,756	2,844	4,541	24,735	*8,088*	*5,431*
	May	2,726	762	4,453	5,961	329	2,385	2,339	4,804	23,759	*8,356*	*5,527*
	June	2,576	807	4,453	5,775	343	3,518	2,946	4,704	25,122	*8,505*	*5,379*
	July	2,675	795	4,786	5,926	357	4,237	3,194	4,751	26,721	*8,967*	*5,701*
	August	2,404	810	4,730	6,197	358	3,493	2,732	4,619	25,343	*9,528*	*5,163*
	September	2,468	727	4,572	5,734	330	3,494	2,932	4,562	24,819	*8,857*	*4,982*
	October	2,349	759	4,514	6,010	308	3,564	2,861	4,759		*8,740*	*5,220*
	November	2,362	788	4,509	6,193	291	3,191	2,863	4,689		*9,196*	*5,357*
	December	2,465 (e)	738	4,660	6,100		3,729		4,493		*9,309*	*5,546* (e)
1975	January			4,518 (e)	5,979 (e)				4,883		*9,535* (e)	*5,033* (e)
	February			4,553 (e)					4,675			
% change in dollar terms latest three months												
On previous three months		−4.9	−2.0	+1.0	+1.8	−12.1	−6.6	−2.4	+0.3	+4.4	*+3.4*	*+3.5*
On a year earlier		+21.2	+8.9	+24.9	+24.8	+24.7	+29.7	+28.5	+25.4	+29.2	*+43.5*	*+33.2*
% change in national currencies latest three months												
On previous three months		−7.9	−4.6	−7.4	−5.9	−10.2	−5.5	−2.5	−1.3	−0.4[4]	*+3.4*	*+3.5*
On a year earlier		+17.7	+8.1	+11.7	+12.7	+29.4	+45.8	+31.2	+20.6	+30.4[4]	*+43.5*	*+42.0*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] *fob.* [4] Weighted average of percentage changes in national currencies.
* All values are expressed in US dollars with the use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated. Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 5 Balance of Payments on Current Account

US$ million (unadjusted)

		Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark	France	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	*United States*	*Japan*
1968		28	−216	−1,059	2,726	− 57	2,627	65	− 682	3,432	*− 482*	*1,048*
1969		74	−410	−1,798	1,609	−190	2,339	31	1,068	2,723	*−1,036*	*2,119*
1970		715	−544	− 152	731	−185	762	−518	1,661	2,470	*355*	*1,970*
1971		844	−422	525	317	205	1,570	−234	2,588	5,393	*−3,817*	*5,797*
1972		1,142	− 66	285	397	−162	1,451	1,138	221	4,406	*−9,807*	*6,623*
1973		1,160	−473	− 236	4,694		−2,526	1,615	−3,153		*450*	*−132*
1974					9,971				−8,948			*−4,525*
1972	1st quarter	279	− 39	− 324	− 52		607	5	− 73		*−2,202*	*958*
	2nd quarter	215	54	445	−125		699	267	476		*−2,827*	*1,212*
	3rd quarter	235	− 36	− 3	−485		577	382	355		*−3,639*	*2,084*
	4th quarter	384	− 46	167	1,060		−433	397	173		*−1,139*	*2,369*
1973	1st quarter	354	−150	− 224	605		−914	398	− 890		*− 259*	*498*
	2nd quarter	226	−179	280	1,227		−839	575	− 471		*− 872*	*−417*
	3rd quarter	200	69	− 432	903		−330	− 41	− 603		*−1,071*	*102*
	4th quarter	318	−211	146	1,959		−443	831	−1,165		*2,653*	*−315*
1974	1st quarter	349	−519		2,539			170	−2,478		*1,075*	*−3,253*
	2nd quarter	−129	−311		2,666			354	−2,317		*−1,952*	*−2,376*
	3rd quarter		−141		1,081			368	−2,022		*−4,194*	*− 67*
	4th quarter				3,685				−2,131			*1,192*

Source: UK: Central Statistical Office. All others: IMF International Financial Statistics

TABLE 6 Export Unit Values of Manufactures

Indices 1970 = 100

		Belgium/ Luxem-bourg		France		German F.R.		Italy		Nether-lands		United Kingdom		*United States*	*Japan*	
		US$	Bfrs.	US$	frs.	US$	D.M.	US$	lire	US$	Gdrs.	US$	£	US$	US$	Yen
1968		92	92	96	85	88	96	90	90	95	95	90	90	*91*	*90*	*90*
1969		85	85	97	90	92	98	93	93	97	97	93	93	*95*	*94*	*94*
1970		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*	*100*
1971		98	96	105	105	107	102	106	105	104	101	107	105	*102*	*104*	*101*
1972		116	102	116	107	117	103	114	106	118	106	116	111	*105*	*116*	*99*
1973				140	113	144	104	127	118	141	109	127	124	*113*	*141*	*107*
1972	1st quarter	116	102	114	105	117	103	112	105	118	106	119	110	*104*	*112*	*96*
	2nd quarter	117	103	114	105	116	102	113	105	117	105	120	111	*105*	*115*	*98*
	3rd quarter	114	100	115	106	118	104	114	106	118	106	116	118	*104*	*117*	*100*
	4th quarter	116	102	117	108	117	103	114	106	118	106	113	115	*107*	*119*	*102*
1973	1st quarter			126	110	124	103	119	110	126	106	119	118	*107*	*125*	*100*
	2nd quarter			141	112	138	103	121	115	136	107	129	121	*111*	*136*	*100*
	3rd quarter			153	115	159	104	131	120	152	110	131	127	*114*	*147*	*108*
	4th quarter			142	113	153	107	133	125	153	112	132	133	*120*	*154*	*118*
1974	1st quarter			141	125	151	112					134	141	*127*	*165*	*134*
	2nd quarter											153	153	*132*	*183*	*142*
	3rd quarter											159	162			
	4th quarter											165	170			
% change latest 3 months:																
On previous 3 months		+1.6	+2.0	−0.7	+10.6	−1.3	+4.7	+1.5	+4.2	+0.7	+1.8	+3.8	+4.9	*+3.9*	*+10.9*	*+6.0*
On a year earlier		+9.4	+4.1	+11.9	+13.9	+21.8	+8.7	+16.7	+17.9	+29.7	+5.7	+25.0	+27.8	*+18.9*	*+34.6*	*+42.0*

(e) estimated. Source: Dollar value: 'United Nations Monthly Bulletin'. National currency: Dollar values converted at OECD exchange rates as quoted in 'Series A'.

TABLE 7 Consumer prices All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]	Luxembourg[1]	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	*United States*	*Japan*[2]
1968	92	93	91	89	93	86	93	89	90	*90*	*88*
1969	96	96	94	95	96	92	95	96	94	*94*	*93*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	104	105	106	105	105	109	105	108	109	*104*	*106*
1972	110	110	113	112	111	118	111	116	117	*108*	*111*
1973	118	117	124	120	119	132	123	125	128	*114*	*124*
1974	113	128	142	136	127	154	146	137	149	*127*	*154*
1972 1st quarter	108	108	110	109	109	115	108	113	114	*106*	*108*
2nd quarter	109	109	112	110	110	117	109	115	116	*107*	*111*
3rd quarter	111	111	114	113	112	120	111	116	118	*108*	*111*
4th quarter	113	113	116	115	114	122	114	119	121	*109*	*113*
1973 1st quarter	115	114	118	116	116	126	117	121	123	*111*	*116*
2nd quarter	117	117	122	118	119	130	122	125	127	*113*	*123*
3rd quarter	118	117	125	121	120	133	124	126	129	*116*	*126*
4th quarter	121	119	129	124	122	137	128	129	133	*118*	*131*
1974 1st quarter	125	123	134	129	125	144	135	132	139	*122*	*145*
2nd quarter	130	127	139	134	127	151	141	136	147	*125*	*151*
3rd quarter	136	129	145	139	128	157	150	138	151	*129*	*156*
4th quarter	140	133	150	143	130	165	159	143	158	*133*	*164*
1973 October	120	118	127	123	121		126	128	132	*118*	*129*
November	120	119	129	125	122	137	128	129	133	*118*	*130*
December	122	120	131	125	123		129	130	134	*119*	*135*
1974 January	123	121	134	127	124		132	130	137	*120*	*141*
February	125	124	134	129	125	144	134	131	139	*122*	*146*
March	127	124	135	131	125		138	133	141	*123*	*147*
April	128	126	137	133	126		139	135	145	*124*	*151*
May	130	127	139	134	127	151	141	136	147	*125*	*151*
June	132	128	142	136	127		143	136	149	*126*	*152*
July	134	129	143	138	128		147	137	150	*127*	*155*
August	136	129	144	139	128	157	150	138	150	*129*	*157*
September	138	130	147	140	128		154	140	152	*131*	*159*
October	139	131	148	142	129		157	142	155	*132*	*163*
November	140	133	151	143	130	165	159	143	158	*133*	*164*
December	141	134	152	144	130		161	144	160	*134*	*165*
1975 January	143	135		146	131		163	145	164	*134*	*166*
February	144										
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	+2.8	+2.4	+3.5	+3.0	+1.7	+4.6	+5.0	+2.6	+5.4	*+2.4*	*+3.3*
On a year earlier	+15.6	+11.3	+16.3	+14.9	+6.2	+20.0	+24.5	+11.0	+19.2	*+12.1*	*+21.6*

[1] Excluding rent. Change of basis during period. (e) estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 8 Value of retail sales Current prices, seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.[3]	Ireland[4]	Italy[4]	Netherlands	Great Britain[5]	*United States*	*Japan*
1968	83	82	88	82	83	84	80	89	*92*	*80*
1969	90	90	97	90	91	90	89	93	*95*	*89*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	108	108	104	111	111	111	108	109	*109*	*110*
1972	120	119	110	120	125	125	121	123	*119*	*118*
1973	138	134	117	131	148	152	131	139	*134*	*145*
1974			133						*143*	
1972 1st quarter	115	113	107	118	119	109	116	116	*114*	*111*
2nd quarter	117	118	108	120	122	115	120	119	*117*	*114*
3rd quarter	122	121	111	124	126	118	122	125	*120*	*120*
4th quarter	126	123	110	125	132	158	124	130	*125*	*124*
1973 1st quarter	133	128	112	132	141	123	128	135	*132*	*135*
2nd quarter	134	129	116	130	147	141	130	133	*132*	*139*
3rd quarter	135	137	114	131	149	140	132	140	*136*	*147*
4th quarter	145	142	124	131	152	204	137	147	*137*	*156*
1974 1st quarter	150	144	128	137	160	160	140	150	*138*	*157*
2nd quarter	154	148	131	136	166	166	144	154	*142*	*160*
3rd quarter	159	148	137	141	169	181	149	165	*148*	*170*
4th quarter			137							
1973 August	133	137	113	131	158	123	133	139	*135*	*145*
September	139	139	116	131	147	161	132	141	*136*	*151*
October	144	141	126	134	151	183	137	146	*138*	*153*
November	144	141	120	130	155	177	135	147	*137*	*159*
December	148	143	124	130	151	253	138	149	*135*	*155*
1974 January	150	144	130	137	154	153	138	147	*137*	*160*
February	150	146	128	135	167	153	142	150	*138*	*156*
March	149	141	125	138	158	175	140	151	*140*	*154*
April	153	148	126	137	169	183	141	152	*142*	*154*
May	156	150	137	137	163	179	145	152	*143*	*160*
June	153	146	129	134	166	173	144	157	*142*	*165*
July	158	149	136	142	165	184	150	160	*148*	*167*
August	159	149	130	138	171	162	149	165	*150*	*177*
September	160	147	143	144	172	196	148	168	*148*	*170*
October		150	148	144	175			171	*146*	
November		151	129					175	*142*	
December			134						*143*	
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	+3.2	+0.9	nil	+3.2	+4.9	+9.0	+3.5	+6.6	*– 2.7*	*+6.9*
On a year earlier	+17.8	+6.4	+10.5	+7.6	+13.6	+29.3	+12.9	+18.2	*+5.1*	*+16.3*

[1] Department stores. [2] Department and chainstores. [3] Excluding West Berlin. [4] Average weekly sales. [5] Excluding motor vehicles.
[6] Revised series, including chainstores.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

TABLE 9 Earnings/wages per head in manufacturing — Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[1, 3, 8]	France[8]	German F.R.[6] †	Ireland[2]	Italy[7]	Netherlands[3]	United Kingdom†	*United States*[4]	*Japan*[5] †
1968	84	81	82	79	76	78	82	81	*90*	*73*
1969	92	90	91	87	86	83	90	89	*95*	*85*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	111	115	110	116	116	113	112	111	*106*	*114*
1972	127	129	120	121	133	124	126	126	*113*	*132*
1973	147	154	135	136	159	154	142	143	*121*	*163*
1974			159				168		*131*	
1971 1st quarter	107	108	104	108	110	109	107	108	*104*	*108*
2nd quarter	110	114	107	109	114	111	110	111	*106*	*111*
3rd quarter	112	117	110	113	118	114	114	112	*106*	*116*
4th quarter	116	121	113	112	122	116	116	116	*108*	*117*
1972 1st quarter	122	123	115	116	127	119	122	121	*111*	*123*
2nd quarter	124	128	118	120	131	121	124	124	*112*	*129*
3rd quarter	127	130	121	122	135	126	128	127	*113*	*131*
4th quarter	132	134	125	126	140	130	129	131	*116*	*138*
1973 1st quarter	141	137	129	130	145	137	137	134	*118*	*146*
2nd quarter	145	150	133	135	157	151	140	139	*120*	*155*
3rd quarter	149	160	138	137	164	161	146	144	*122*	*162*
4th quarter	154	168	143	141	168	168	148	150	*124*	*175*
1974 1st quarter	161	174	147	142	172	176	158	147	*126*	*173*
2nd quarter	177	186	155	151	188	184	166	159	*129*	*201*
3rd quarter	185	191	164	156		194	174	172	*133*	*215*
4th quarter			168				175		*137*	
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	+4.5	+2.7	+2.4	+3.3	+9.3	+5.4	+0.6	+8.2	*+3.0*	*+6.6*
On a year earlier	+24.2	+19.4	+17.5	+13.9	+19.7	+20.4	+18.2	+19.4	*+10.2*	*+32.4*

† Seasonally adjusted.
[1] Including mining. [2] Earnings. [3] Hourly earnings industry: males. [4] Gross hourly earnings per productive worker. [5] Monthly earnings in manufacturing: regular workers.
[6] Wages and salaries per employed person in industry, excluding construction, public gas and electricity undertakings. [7] Hourly-rates times average daily hours worked.
[8] Revised series.
Source: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except German Federal Republic ('Monatsberichte der Deutschen Bundesbank', Reihe 4), Italy ('I.L.O. Yearbook' and 'M.E.I.') and United Kingdom ('Department of Employment Gazette').

New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference points given at the end of the item.

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

General. Regulation (EEC) 538/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1463/73 laying down detailed rules for the application of monetary compensatory amounts. (*Official Journal* L57, 3 March 1975)

Dehydrated fodder. Regulation (EEC) 573/75 fixing the production aid for dehydrated fodder for the 1975/76 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L61, 7 March 1975)

Silk and silkworms. Regulation (EEC) 574/75 fixing the amount of aid in respect of silkworms for the 1975/76 rearing year. (*Official Journal* L61, 7 March 1975)

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 575/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 3185/74 introducing an export charge on certain goods covered by Regulation (EEC) 1059/69. (*Official Journal* L61, 7 March 1975)

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 583/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 3197/73 as regards the security to be lodged when tendering for the export levy for rice. This replaces Article 3 (1) of Regulation 3197/73 by the following: '1. No tender shall be considered unless appropriate security is lodged. The amount of this security shall be fixed in the Regulation relating to the opening of the relevant invitation to tender.' (*Official Journal* L61, 7 March 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 584/75 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of tendering for export refunds on rice. (*Official Journal* L61, 7 March 1975)

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 587/75 determining the maximum guaranteed price for milk in the United Kingdom for the 1975/76 milk year. (*Official Journal* L61, 7 March 1975)

EEC/PORTUGAL AGREEMENT: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L62, 7 March 1975, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 543/75 concluding two Agreements in the form of exchanges of letters relating to Articles 2 and 3 of Protocol 8 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic:

Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters relating to Article 2 of Protocol 8 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic.

Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters relating to Article 3 of Protocol 8 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic.

Further information: Department of Trade, Overseas Tariff and Regulation Section, Export Data Branch, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4 7HU, tel. 01-711 408/482/7174 (import duties, taxes, etc., on imports from Portugal into the EEC other than UK), tel. 01-711 458/459/460/461 (import duties, taxes, etc., on imports into Portugal); Tariff Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-215 3717/5544 (imports into the UK from Portugal).

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure: Total	Fixed capital expenditure: of which: Manufacturing industry	Fixed capital expenditure: of which: Distributive and service industries	Changes in stocks: Total	Changes in stocks: of which: Manufacturing industry	Changes in stocks: of which: Wholesalers	Changes in stocks: of which: Retailers	Balance of payments: Current balance	Balance of payments: Visible balance	Balance of payments: Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,387	9 223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	257	324	68	−23	698	−11	709
1971	101	103	100	94	103	−7	−126	52	−4	1,052	273	778
1972	104	109	103	85	116	−39	203	48	3	82	−683	765
1973	109	114	108	90	121	647	374	32	242	−1,117	−2,301	1,184
1974				99	111		335	43	−124	−3,828	−5,259	1,431
1972 1st qtr.	101	106	103	90	108	−36	−62	17	−16	85	−123	208
2nd qtr.	104	108	103	84	115	−27	−106	1	38	123	−67	190
3rd qtr.	104	110	102	82	116	−13	−42	6	−13	−109	−284	175
4th qtr.	106	111	105	83	123	37	7	24	−6	−17	−209	192
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	111	89	127	257	146	11	32	−184	−354	170
2nd qtr.	109	112	104	86	113	202	61	−9	163	−210	−401	191
3rd qtr.	110	114	109	91	120	94	68	6	22	−230	−569	339
4th qtr.	110	114	109	94	125	121	99	24	25	−493	−977	484
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	111	99	111	−260	−100	8	−73	−971	−1,279	308
2nd qtr.	109	112	103	100	107	227	138	42	11	−985	−1,316	331
3rd qtr.	111	114	103	99	116	214	299	−27	−28	−797	−1,210	413
4th qtr.		115		100	112		−1	19	−34	−1,075	−1,454	379
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.9	+1.8	−6.7	+0.2	+4.6							
on a year earlier	+0.5	+0.4	−3.6	+7.0	−6.9							

	Index of industrial production: Total all industries	Index of industrial production: Total manufacturing industries	Personal expenditure: Retail sales	Personal expenditure: Cars: new registrations	Prices and costs: Index of retail prices: Index‡	Prices and costs: Index of retail prices: % increase on a year earlier	Prices and costs: Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Prices and costs: Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Prices and costs: Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Labour: Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Labour: Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Labour: Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Trade§: Exports	Trade§: Imports
				monthly averages						thousands		thousands	totals	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		16 Jan. 1962		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	8,801	8,528
1972	102.4	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	9,147	9,830
1973	109.9	110.5	110.7	137.3	179.4	9.2	144.4	123.2•	115.5	581	2.6	304	11,512	13,813
1974	106.4	107.9	109.9	102.7	108.5†	16.0	240.2	151.9	138.5	573+	2.5+	298+	15,589	20,848
1973 1st qtr.	109.9	109.9	111.8	152	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.9	667	2.9	228	2,685	3,039
2nd qtr.	109.6	110.0	108.3	136	177.9	9.3	133.3	120.1•	113.7	605	2.6	289	2,788	3,189
3rd qtr.	110.7	111.5	110.6	143	180.2	9.2	150.8	124.2	118.5	562	2.5	334	2,991	3,560
4th qtr.	109.5	110.5	112.0	119	186.8	10.3	167.6	129.1	121.0	489	2.2	364	3,048	4,025
1974 1st qtr.	103.5	105.7	109.8	103	101.4†	12.9	212.5	138.4	125.0	543	2.4	285	3,500	4,779
2nd qtr.	107.8	109.3	107.3	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.2	552	2.4	309	3,900	5,216
3rd qtr.	108.6	110.2	111.0	109	110.2	17.0	213.0	156.1	143.9	600	2.7	306	4,161	5,371
4th qtr.	105.4	106.2	111.6 p	96	115.1	18.2	221.8	164.7	152.9	**	**	**	4,029	5,482
1974 Jan.	101.2	102.3	109.1	93	191.8	12.0	209.5	134.1	123.7	535	2.4	304	1,064	1,424
Feb.	103.3	106.8	110.1	109	101.7†	13.2	213.1	138.5	124.7	549	2.4	278	1,173	1,610
Mar.	105.9	107.9	110.0	106	102.6	13.5	215.0	142.2	126.5	545	2.4	274	1,263	1,745
Apr.	107.3	109.0	107.9	97	106.1	15.2	215.4	146.3	127.9	546	2.4	297	1,272	1,675
May	107.5	108.7	105.6	105	107.6	15.9	214.0	148.9	132.0	548	2.4	314	1,304	1,783
June	108.6	110.3	108.2	111	108.7	16.5	211.7	151.1	136.8	561	2.5	317	1,324	1,758
July	109.2	110.7	109.2	106	109.7	17.1	212.3	153.5	139.8	582	2.6	317	1,337	1,769
Aug.	109.1	111.2	111.4	102	109.8	16.9	213.7	156.1	145.5	606	2.7	298	1,378	1,787
Sept.	107.6	108.8	112.2	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.3	612	2.7	303	1,446	1,816
Oct.	107.0	107.5	111.4	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2	148.4	607	2.7	297	1,347	1,841
Nov.	106.6	107.7	112.8	98	115.2	18.3	223.8	164.7	153.6	608	2.7	276	1,296	1,896
Dec.	102.8	103.5	110.8	87	116.9	19.1	222.5	167.6	157.6	**		**	1,386	1,745
1975 Jan.	105.9	108.1	113.0	109	119.9	19.9	221.6 p	172.4 p	158.9	675e	3.0	**	1.562 p	1,837 p
Feb.			112 p	113	121.9	19.9	218.4 p	174.8 p	160.8	703	3.1	192	1,459 p	1,745 p
Mar.										721	3.2	186		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−2.6	−2.5	−0.2	−2.8	+5.7		+0.9	+6.0	+6.5				+8	−4
on a year earlier	−0.9	−0.7	+1.2	−1.3	+19.6		+10.8	+27.6	+28.9				+35	+22

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. • After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1974 = 100.
** Figures not available. + Average of 11 months. e Figure is estimate.

Production of man-made fibres in January

In the three months ended January 1975 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted, was estimated to have been 26 per cent less than in the three months ended in October 1974. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in January 1975 was 26 per cent lower than in January 1974; output of continuous filament decreased by 16 per cent and staple fibre decreased by 32 per cent.

Man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tons

	Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968	539.1	241.8	297.4
1969	563.9	252.5	301.5
1970	599.4	257.6	341.9
1971	613.1	276.4	336.7
1972	626.5	264.0	362.5
1973	730.8	305.6	425.3
1974	627.6	271.0	356.6
1973 1st quarter	183.5	78.1	105.4
2nd quarter	186.1	79.4	106.7
3rd quarter	171.4	70.6	100.8
4th quarter	189.9	77.5	112.4
1974 1st quarter	174.0	69.9	104.1
2nd quarter	175.1	71.7	103.4
3rd quarter	149.9	67.1	82.7
4th quarter	128.6	62.3	66.3
1973 October	67.1	27.3	39.7
November	63.0	25.9	37.1
December	59.8	24.3	35.5
1974 January	57.1	21.7	35.4
February	54.9	22.4	32.5
March	62.1	25.9	36.2
April	63.9	25.6	38.3
May	55.9	24.9	31.0
June	55.3	21.1	34.2
July	55.6	22.8	32.8
August	48.5	21.3	27.2
September	45.9	23.1	22.8
October	50.7	25.2	25.5
November	43.1	20.7	22.4
December	34.7	16.4	18.3
1975 January	42.1	18.2	24.0

Index of the volume of production

1970 = 100

1968	87
1969	92
1970	100
1971	106
1972	107
1973	127
1974	111

	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973 1st quarter	129	127
2nd quarter	131	128
3rd quarter	118	125
4th quarter	130	129
1974 1st quarter	120	117
2nd quarter	119	116
3rd quarter	109	117
4th quarter	96	95
1973 October	137	135
November	134	129
December	120	124
1974 January	112	110
February	122	120
March	125	121
April	131	129
May	116	112
June	110	107
July	113	119
August	106	120
September	109	110
October	116	114
November	99	95
December	74	76
1975 January	85	82

The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months but not for holidays or other seasonal variations. The seasonally adjusted figures are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1973, and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1974 are incorporated.

Tel. 01-212 0531 or 01-212 6474.

Sales by wholesale textile houses

Sales by wholesale textile houses in January showed an increase of 18 per cent on a year earlier, compared with increases of 1 per cent in November and 5 per cent in December.

The value of stocks at the end of January was 15 per cent higher than a year earlier.

TABLE 1 Total sales and stocks

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

	Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966	110	*−3*	..	..
1967	104	*−5*	..	..
1968	108	*4*	..	..
1969	103	*−5*	..	..
1970	107	*4*	..	..
1971	115	*8*	..	..
1972	121	*5*	..	..
1973	134	*11*	..	..
1974	147	*9*	..	..
1972 3rd quarter	123	*7*	154	*4*
4th quarter	149	*6*	169	*12*
1973 1st quarter	120	*18*	184	*12*
2nd quarter	123	*11*	171	*17*
3rd quarter	130	*6*	173	*12*
4th quarter	163	*10*	204	*21*
1974 1st quarter	134	*12*	189	*3*
2nd quarter	131	*7*	202	*18*
3rd quarter	148	*13*	194	*12*
4th quarter	173	*6*	198	*−3*
1974 January	83	*−4*	179	*11*
February	135	*8*	184	*9*
March	182	*25*	189	*3*
April	139	*5*	180	*11*
May	123	*8*	206	*19*
June	132	*9*	202	*18*
July	117	*9*	205	*19*
August	141	*13*	207	*15*
September	185	*16*	194	*12*
October	206	*12*	192	*18*
November	156	*1*	222	*10*
December	158	*5*	198	*−3*
1975 January	99	*18*	205	*15*

TABLE 2 Analysis by department

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales	Stocks(‡)
	Jan. 1975	Jan. 1975
Women's knitted outwear, blouses and skirts	21	−3
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	−27	34
Women's underwear	18	76
Women's hose and children's socks	11	22
Women's millinery	18	−10
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	33	−5
Children's wear	22	1
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	−9	77
Gloves	20	30
Piece-goods and nets	32	−39
Household textiles	20	−2
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	21	11
Boots and shoes	64	6
Total†	18	15

† Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
‡ Values at cost.

Notes

These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association.

Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, the Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP (tel. 01-580 2902).

Sales in the carpet industry in January 1975

The daily rate of manufacturers' sales by value in January at current prices was provisionally estimated to have been 25 per cent more than in January 1974; assuming 22 working days in both months. In the three months ended January 1975, the daily rate of manufacturers' sales was provisionally estimated to have been 15 per cent more than in the corresponding period of 12 months ago, assuming 63 working days in both periods. The index numbers, which are of manufacturers' sales by value, have been adjusted for the length of the working month, but not for non-statutory holidays or other seasonal factors. The Wholesale Price Index of carpets is shown as a guide to the movement in prices.

1970 = 100

	Index of manufacturers' sales at current prices	Wholesale price index
1969	93	96.6
1970	100	100.0
1971	115	104.9
1972	135	111.7
1973	166	130.2
1974	179	153.1*
1973 Quarter ended December	183	135.1
1974 Quarter ended March	165	141.5
Quarter ended June	186	150.6
Quarter ended September	164	158.7
Quarter ended December	202	161.5*
1973 October	180	133.1
November	194	135.8
December	172	136.5
1974 January	132	139.2
1974 October	196	160.9
November	218	160.9
December	192	162.9*
1975 January	165	166.6*

* Provisional.

New-style 'Economic Trends'

Economic Trends, a Central Statistical Office publication, has been completely redesigned following extensive discussion with its readers. The CSO has aimed at producing a monthly journal both comprehensive and easy to use for all who need to keep in touch with broad movements in the economy. The first new-style edition will be available in early April.

Reference cycle analysis of the economy is introduced for the first time. This addition to the presentation of economic statistics, which identifies leading indicators of the business cycle, will be a regular feature of the new *Economic Trends*.

Another new feature is 'Latest Developments' – a stop-press summary of the month's main economic events and indicators. There is also a round-up of news about economic statistics from other official sources.

The main section now comprises 60 pages of carefully presented economic information with complementary charts for quick assimilation. Output, investment, stocks, consumers' expenditure, prices, profits, employment, earnings, interest rates are among subjects included.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half	* five week period
the final digit shown	• fifty-three week
p provisional	period

Regular features already include reports on the national accounts and special articles dealing with new economic surveys and series, as well as a list of publication dates for government statistics in the coming month; and these continue.

Typeface, layout, indexing, etc. have been revised.

Economic Trends, published by HMSO, is available from Government bookshops or direct from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. It costs £1.15 net or £16.64 for an annual subscription including supplement and postage.

Business Monitor

The following titles and issues of Business Monitor are now available:

Production series

Monthly at £1.40 each a year post free:

PM 332 Metal working machine tools for November 1974
PM 476 Imported timber for January 1975
PM 481 Paper and paper making materials for January 1975

Quarterly at 52p each a year post free:

PQ 216 Sugar for fourth quarter 1974
PQ 240 Tobacco for fourth quarter 1974
PQ 279.7 Photographic chemical materials for fourth quarter 1974
PQ 442 Men's and boys' tailored outerwear for third quarter 1974
PQ 443 Women's and girls' tailored outerwear for second quarter 1974
PQ 450 Footwear for fourth quarter 1974
PQ 461.1 Refractory goods for fourth quarter 1974
PQ 479 Miscellaneous wood and cork manufactures for fourth quarter 1974
PQ 482.1 Cardboard boxes, cartons and fibreboard packing cases for fourth quarter 1974

Service and Distributive series

Monthly at £2.80 a year post free:

SD 4 Miscellaneous non-food shops for January 1975

Business Monitors in the Production, Service and Distributive and Miscellaneous series are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. The Census of Production reports are available on standing order from the same address or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Exceptionally copies can be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or at the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Department's Central Library, which will supply prices on request (tel. 01-215 3038) or the Department's Library at the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG (tel. 0633-56111, ext. 2973, telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport), from which a complete list of titles of Business Monitors is available on application.

Inquiries about the distribution of Business Monitors may be made to the Business Statistics Office (ext. 2700) whose address and telephone number appear above.

Index of retail prices for February

The index of retail prices for all items for February 18 1975 was 121.9 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 1.7 per cent on January (119.9) and of 19.9 per cent on February 1974 (101.7).

The rise in the index in February was due to higher prices for clothing, sweets and chocolates, bread, second-hand cars, and many other goods and services.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1

	All items			All items except seasonal food		
	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 12 months	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 6 months
1974						
September	111.0	+1.1	+17.1	111.5	+1.1	+8.5
October	113.2	+2.0	+17.1	113.7	+2.0	+7.0
November	115.2	+1.8	+18.3	115.6	+1.7	+7.3
December	116.9	+1.5	+19.1	117.4	+1.6	+8.1
1975						
January	119.9	+2.6	+19.9	120.5	+2.6	+9.5
February	121.9	+1.7	+19.9	122.5	+1.7	+11.1

TABLE 2

	Indices (15 Jan. 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	14 Jan. 1975	18 Feb. 1975	
All items	119.9	121.9	+1.7
All items excluding food	120.4	122.1	+1.4
Food	118.3	121.3	+2.5
Seasonal food	106.6	108.9	+2.2
Other food	121.1	124.2	+2.6
Alcoholic drink	118.2	119.5	+1.1
Tobacco	124.0	124.0	Nil
Housing	110.3	111.1	+0.7
Fuel and light	124.9	127.8	+2.3
Durable household goods	118.3	119.8	+1.3
Clothing and footwear	118.6	121.0	+2.0
Transport and vehicles	130.3	132.6	+1.8
Miscellaneous goods	125.2	127.9	+2.2
Services	115.8	116.7	+0.8
Meals out	118.7	120.5	+1.5

Retailers' stocks in January

Based on the non-seasonally adjusted data of Table 1, the level of stocks at book values in January was 15 per cent higher than a year earlier, but at constant prices it was 7 per cent lower.

The information given in this article is now being extended to include, each month, an estimate of the seasonally adjusted value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at constant (1970) prices (Table 2). Essentially, this is a measure, adjusted for seasonal influences and price changes, of the monthly movement in the quantity of stocks held by retailers. As usual, caution should be exercised in the interpretation of a single month's figure. The quarterly estimates are incorporated in the quarterly national accounts statistics prepared by the Central Statistical Office; their conceptual significance is explained below.

The statistics shown hitherto (Table 1) relate to the book value of retailers' stocks, and their revaluation to constant (1970) prices, both on a non-seasonally adjusted basis. The change in the value of stocks from one month to the next comes about from changes in both the amount (or volume) of stocks held, and also the prices at which they are valued. For national accounts purposes, it is necessary to apportion the monthly change between these two components (normally referred to as value of physical increase and stock appreciation). A full description of the way this is done is given at Chapter XIII of *National Accounts Statistics: Sources and Methods*, HMSO 1968.

The derivation of the figures of the value of physical increase at constant (1970) prices shown in Table 2 forms an integral part of this computation. The estimates of the book value of stocks are revalued according to the average prices obtaining in 1970 (this gives the basis for the index number series given in the lower half of Table 1); this series is then seasonally adjusted and the required estimates are given by the differences between successive months.

The January estimate indicates a comparatively large fall in the volume of retailers' stocks (at constant (1970) prices and seasonally adjusted); this coincided with a high level of retail sales associated with comparatively buoyant annual 'sales', and followed the decline in the level of stocks during the second half of 1974, when the underlying movement in the volume of retail sales was broadly flat.

TABLE 1 Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1971 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier*

(At cost at end of month)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
At book values:												
1966	65	68	69	70	70	71	69	70	71	75	78	70
1967	68	69	71	72	72	73	71	72	73	78	81	72
1968	71	73	76	77	78	79	78	78	80	85	89	81
1969	79	81	84	85	86	86	85	84	86	92	96	87
1970	84	86	88	90	89	90	89	88	91	97	102	93
1971	89	91	94	95	95	97	95	95	97	106	110	100
1972	96	99	101	102	103	105	102	102	105	114	120	107
1973	103	106	110	108	110	113	112	113	117	127	135	124
1974	120	121	126	130	134	135	134	133	138	150	159	143
1975	138											
1969	*11*	*11*	*11*	*10*	*9*	*8*	*9*	*7*	*7*	*8*	*8*	*8*
1970	*6*	*5*	*5*	*6*	*4*	*5*	*5*	*5*	*6*	*6*	*6*	*7*
1971	*6*	*6*	*7*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*7*	*9*	*8*	*8*
1972	*8*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*8*	*7*
1973	*8*	*8*	*9*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	—	*21*	*22*	*19*	*20*	*18*	*18*	*18*	*18*	*16*
1975	*15*											
At constant (1970) prices:												
1966	88	91	93	93	94	95	92	92	94	99	102	91
1967	89	91	93	94	95	95	94	94	96	102	106	94
1968	93	95	98	97	99	100	97	98	100	106	111	100
1969	97	99	102	102	103	103	101	99	101	108	113	102
1970	97	99	101	102	101	101	99	98	100	106	111	100
1971	95	97	99	99	98	99	96	96	99	107	111	100
1972	95	97	100	100	100	102	99	99	100	107	113	100
1973	97	99	102	109	110	112	110	109	113	120	126	114
1974	109	107	111	111	112	111	109	107	109	116	120	107
1975	101											
1969	*4*	*4*	*4*	*5*	*4*	*3*	*4*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*
1970	*1*	—	*–1*	—	*–2*	*–1*	*–2*	*–1*	*–1*	*–2*	*–2*	*–1*
1971	*–2*	*–2*	*–2*	*–3*	*–3*	*–2*	*–3*	*–2*	*–2*	—	—	—
1972	—	—	*1*	*1*	*2*	*3*	*2*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*2*	—
1973	*2*	*2*	*3*	*9*	*10*	*10*	*12*	*11*	*12*	*12*	*12*	*14*
1974	*12*	*9*	*8*	*2*	*2*	*–1*	*–1*	*–2*	*–3*	*–4*	*–5*	*–7*
1975	*–7*											

1 The book value of retailers' stocks in the United Kingdom at end of December 1971 was £1,899 million.

2 With the introduction of VAT, the book values are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series in 1973 between March and April. For the year up to March, the usual comparisons with a year earlier for the book values series have not been given. As the basis of valuation is now comparable with that of a year earlier these percentages changes have been re-introduced. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are on a consistent basis throughout.

TABLE 2 Value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices

Seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1966	11	11	–7	8	10	14	–8	8	–1	–2	–5	–23
1967	12	1	–19	33	8	7	8	21	—	5	–7	–11
1968	29	–1	–1	–5	28	9	—	21	–7	11	8	–4
1969	15	3	—	3	13	–7	14	–17	1	5	2	1
1970	–7	–1	–21	17	–21	11	8	–10	2	–10	3	6
1971	–13	–6	–13	3	–17	17	–6	4	10	21	–8	4
1972	–7	3	–12	12	4	22	–15	14	–12	10	9	–25
1973	20	8	4	107	21	35	9	–1	14	–2	13	14
1974	–10	–60	–3	8	19	–16	12	–32	–8	–8	–3	–23
1975	–30											

See footnote 2 to Table 1.

Index of industrial production for January

The provisional estimate for the total index in January 1975, prepared by the Central Statistical Office, is 105.9 and for manufacturing alone the estimate is 108.1 (1970 = 100).

In January the all-industries index rose from its erratically low level in December (when changed holiday patterns at the end of the month are thought to have contributed to a fall in output.

Index of industrial production

Seasonally adjusted — 1970 = 100

	Total all industries	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries													
			Total	Food, drink and tobacco					Engineering and allied industries							
				Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals and allied industries	Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metal goods n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	100.4	99.7	99.6	100.7	100.1	101.7	103.4	102.2	99.1	100.1	100.8	102.6	96.6	98.5	93.3
1972	102.4	84.0	102.0	105.0	104.2	106.4	102.6	108.1	99.3	95.0	93.1	110.3	91.8	101.6	94.2
1973	109.9	93.6	110.5	109.3	106.4	114.0	110.0	121.6	107.1	103.5	101.8	125.9	95.1	101.6	102.7
1974	106.4	83.8	107.9	110.7	105.6	119.1	106.1	127.6	105.4	104.0	105.0	120.8	95.6	95.1	106.3
1973 1st qtr.	109.9	99.6	109.9	108.4	106.8	110.9	105.9	119.0	107.0	102.5	102.0	126.4	94.1	102.5	102.1
2nd qtr.	109.6	96.2	110.0	109.6	107.1	113.8	108.4	119.9	106.3	101.7	102.3	125.8	94.1	99.6	103.9
3rd qtr.	110.7	94.7	111.5	110.2	105.9	117.1	115.2	123.4	108.3	104.8	102.0	125.2	95.7	104.1	104.5
4th qtr.	109.5	84.1	110.5	109.0	106.0	114.0	110.7	124.2	106.9	104.9	101.2	126.0	96.4	100.2	100.1
1974 1st qtr.	103.5	58.0	105.7	114.5	109.4	122.9	101.8	126.6	101.0	100.4	99.3	120.1	85.7	89.2	98.7
2nd qtr.	107.8	90.5	109.3	110.4	106.2	117.5	110.7	128.0	106.2	104.4	107.5	119.1	97.4	96.6	108.9
3rd qtr.	108.6	93.0	110.2	109.4	104.3	117.9	106.4	132.8	108.7	105.1	105.9	124.6	98.7	100.5	110.5
4th qtr.	105.4	93.7	106.2	108.4	102.6	118.0	105.5	123.1	106.0	105.9	107.1	119.3	100.5	94.2	107.1
Apr.	107.3	89	109.0	111	104	121	111	131	105	103	106	118	97	93	108
May	107.5	91	108.7	112	108	118	115	127	107	105	108	119	97	99	108
June	108.6	92	110.3	109	106	114	106	127	107	105	108	120	98	98	111
July	109.2	94	110.7	110	105	118	98	132	109	105	106	125	97	101	113
Aug.	109.1	93	111.2	110	104	119	114	132	110	105	106	125	99	105	111
Sept.	107.6	92	108.8	109	104	118	107	134	107	106	106	124	100	95	107
Oct.	107.0	94	107.5	108	102	118	109	127	107	106	107	121	100	95	109
Nov.	106.6	94	107.7	109	104	116	108	124	108	106	107	119	101	98	112
Dec.	102.8	93	103.5	108	101	120	100	118	104	105	107	118	100	90	101
1975 Jan.	105.9	93	108.1	112	101	130	100	125	109	106	107	118	101	101	117
Aug.-Oct. (av.)	107.9	93	109.2	109	103	118	110	131	108	106	106	123	100	98	109
Nov.-Jan. (av.)	105.1	93	106.4	110	102	122	103	122	107	106	107	118	101	96	110

	Manufacturing industries (continued)												Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc.						
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc.	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1970	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1971	90.8	89.4	95.6	102.3	100.7	103.0	105.4	107.7	106.3	109.8	103.0	97.3	99.7	102.9	103.9
1972	90.8	89.2	95.7	104.6	103.0	104.5	107.7	114.2	113.6	115.1	113.5	102.6	104.2	104.5	111.2
1973	99.5	97.3	106.1	109.9	108.6	101.0	113.8	126.2	124.8	129.1	132.6	112.1	116.5	107.3	117.8
1974	91.5	87.8	103.2	103.8	100.0	97.6	112.5	117.1	109.6	128.7	112.6	109.5	113.9	98.8	117.5
1973 1st qtr.	99.8	97.8	106.1	110.1	111.1	103.0	109.0	125.6	128.1	121.8	136.9	108.9	115.9	110.3	114.6
2nd qtr.	99.1	96.5	107.2	111.6	110.5	102.3	115.1	125.7	124.3	127.8	131.5	111.7	116.0	106.1	118.7
3rd qtr.	100.0	97.3	108.7	108.7	106.3	99.9	114.8	128.2	124.5	134.0	132.6	114.8	116.6	107.5	117.4
4th qtr.	98.9	97.8	102.5	109.1	106.3	99.0	116.4	126.4	122.4	132.7	129.5	113.0	117.6	105.5	120.6
1974 1st qtr.	89.3	84.5	104.1	99.8	98.8	96.3	102.4	118.5	107.4	135.7	116.0	108.6	112.2	101.7	107.6
2nd qtr.	91.3	86.3	106.8	109.3	106.3	100.7	116.7	121.1	115.5	129.9	116.4	111.1	118.0	99.5	118.0
3rd qtr.	95.6	92.4	105.4	106.0	101.2	96.3	117.3	116.8	109.6	128.1	109.5	110.5	118.9	98.3	121.2
4th qtr.	90.1	87.9	96.7	99.9	93.6	97.3	113.5	111.9	105.9	121.2	108.5	107.7	106.4	95.7	123.2
Apr.	92	87	106	110	108	99	114	123	116	134	118	111	117		115
May	85	79	104	106	103	99	110	121	116	128	114	112	117		121
June	97	93	110	112	108	104	118	120	114	128	117	111	120		118
July	96	95	102	107	102	96	121	116	112	123	109	113	120		124
Aug.	102	100	110	108	104	96	118	118	108	134	110	110	112		118
Sept.	88	83	104	103	98	96	113	116	108	127	110	109	125		121
Oct.	87	83	101	103	99	98	112	112	106	122	108	110	113		132
Nov.	91	86	104	103	96	98	117	114	107	124	110	109	110		123
Dec.	92	94	86	94	85	96	112	110	105	118	108	105	96		115
1975 Jan.	91	83	113	102	93	97	119	114	108	124	114	106	103		115
Aug.-Oct. (av.)	92	89	105	105	100	97	114	115	107	128	109	110	117		124
Nov.-Jan. (av.)	91	88	101	100	91	97	116	113	107	122	111	107	103		118

The unusually large month to month fluctuations make interpretation difficult, but the latest figures continue to suggest a decline in industrial output in recent months.

It is provisionally estimated that the average levels in November to January of both the all-industries index and the index for manufacturing were 2½ per cent below those in the previous three months.

The use of series which measure deliveries rather than production led the all-industries index to understate the level of output by about 1 per cent in the third quarter but had little effect in the fourth quarter.

On a longer-term comparison, both the all-industries index and the index for manufacturing industry were about 5 per cent lower in the latest three months than in August-October 1973, before the miners' dispute started.

The index numbers for all-industries have been revised downwards by about ½ per cent in the third quarter and by 1 per cent in the fourth quarter. The revisions are due to the incorporation of later information in the estimates for a number of industries.

The average index numbers of the latest three months and the previous three months shown at the foot of the table give a general guide to the changes which have taken place in the output of the major groups in recent months.

Northern Ireland index of production

The provisional 'All Industries' index of production for January 1975 is 157. This is 6 points higher than the index for December 1974 and at the same level as January 1974.

The index numbers for the main industrial groups with the increase or decrease in January 1974, and corresponding percentages shown in brackets are: textiles 205 (−40 points; −16 per cent), clothing 124 (+12; +11 per cent), Engineering and metals 112 (no change), food, drink and tobacco 117 (+4; +4 per cent), timber and furniture 142 (−23; −14 per cent), mineral products 134 (−6; −6 per cent), other manufacturing industries 280 (+49; +21 per cent), gas, electricity and water 258 (+28; +12 per cent).

The metric change

Going Metric is the quarterly bulletin of the Metrication Board. As the metric change is taking place around us *Going Metric* provides information of what is happening in Government, in industry, in education. *Going Metric* is free from the Information Office, J Metrication Board, 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE.

Domestic furniture deliveries in January

Monthly figures of domestic furniture deliveries for the period January 1974 to January 1975:

		Deliveries £m. current values	Index of deliveries (1970 = 100) unadjusted	Index of deliveries (1970 = 100) seasonally adjusted
1974	January	31.9 r	125 r	130
	February	30.8 r	136 r	130
	March	35.9 r	148 r	144
	April	34.6 r	135	142 r
	May	35.1 r	131	136
	June	34.0	144	142
	July	30.0 r	108 r	134 r
	August	29.5 r	110 r	133 r
	September	38.8 r	148 r	129 r
	October	42.4 r	147 r	127 r
	November	41.8 r	157 r	135 r
	December	35.9 r	127 r	134 r
1975	January	43.3 p	152 p	159 p

r = revised
p = provisional

Services to exporters

The following Government offices provide services for UK exporters:

Headquarters

Export Services and Promotions Division
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757. Telex 886143 DTI EXPORT LDN

Regional

Office for Scotland
314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8XF
Tel. 041-248 2855. Telex 77583 DTI GLASGOW

Inverness District Office
Caledonia House, 63/67 Academy Street, Inverness IV1 1LU
Tel. (0463) 30867

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Tel. (0222) 62131. Telex 49267 DTI CARDIFF

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Priestley House, 1 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5LF
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Northern Regional Office
Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4TR
Tel. (0632) 27575. Telex 53178 DTI NTYNE

Cumberland and Westmorland District Office
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Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA
Tel. 061-236 2171. Telex 667104 DTI MCHR

West-Midlands Regional Office
Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4DT
Tel. 021-632 4111. Telex 337021 DTI BHAM

East-Midlands Regional Office
Cranbrook House, 47 Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1ES
Tel. (0602) 46121. Telex 37143 DTI NOTTM

South-Western Regional Office
The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2PB
Tel. (0272) 291071. Telex 44214 DTI BRISTOL

Northern Ireland Department of Commerce
Chichester House, 64 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JX
Tel. (0232) 34488. Telex 747025 GOVNI BELFAST

Engineering industries sales and orders (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX)

The provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume index numbers of engineering sales and orders up to December 1974 are published in the accompanying table. Although order books are still high there has been some decrease in activity in recent months in the engineering industries. The volume of total sales has declined, with home sales falling back and export sales now steady after strong growth earlier in the year. Total new orders continue to decrease with the weaker trend in home investment and orders-on-hand have also shown some decline.

The trend of total sales shows a decline of 2 per cent in the period September to December. Export sales were unchanged while home sales fell by 3½ per cent. The volume of export sales was 14½ per cent higher in the last quarter of 1974 than one year earlier while home sales were 7 per cent below the corresponding period in 1973.

The trend of net new orders declined further in the three months to last December, with the total showing a fall of 5 per cent from

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842.

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX) (a)

Volume index numbers:	Orders-on-hand. December 1970 unadjusted = 100 Total			Net new orders and sales, 1970 average monthly sales = 100 Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New net orders	Sales
Trend estimates									
1973 July	118	138	114	123	140	118	108	134	103
August	121	140	114	125	141	119	112	139	103
September	124	141	114	128	140	118	117	142	103
October	128	139	113	131	137	117	122	144	103
November	131	135	112	133	131	116	126	144	103
December	133	130	111	134	124	114	131	143	103
1974 January	135	124	110	135	117	112	135	142	104
February	136	120	109	135	112	111	140	141	105
March	137	117	109	135	108	110	143	139	107
April	138	115	110	134	107	110	146	135	110
May	138	114	112	133	108	111	148	128	112
June	138	112	113	133	109	112	149	120	115
July	137	110	114	132	109	113	148	111	116
August	136	107	114	131	107	113	146	106	117
September	135	104	114	130	104	112	145	102	117
October	133	102	113	129	102	111	143	102	118
November	132	100	112	127	99	110	141	103	118
December	131	98	111	126	96	108	140	104	118
Percentage change (b) Sept.-December 1974	−3.0	−5.0	−2.0	-2.5	−8.0	−3.5	−3.0	1.5	—
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	134	136	117	130	130	102
1974	130	110	111	125	106	111	140	119	113
1973 3rd quarter	125	142	114	128	143	118	117	139	104
4th quarter	133	135	113	134	132	117	130	143	103
1974 1st quarter	136	117	109	133	108	111	143	139	104
2nd quarter	139	119	111	134	114	110	150	132	113
3rd quarter	135	104	115	131	106	114	143	99	117
4th quarter	130	99	112	125	95	109	140	109	118
1973 October	127	131	114	130	130	119	121	135	102
November	131	147	116	133	142	121	127	157	104
December	133	126	109	134	122	112	130	136	104
1974 January	136	125	104	136	118	107	136	143	98
February	136	115	110	135	107	111	139	133	108
March	136	111	112	133	100	115	143	140	106
April	138	120	110	133	110	108	147	145	114
May	139	115	108	134	111	108	149	125	108
June	139	122	114	134	120	113	150	126	116
July	137	97	116	131	94	116	149	107	115
August	136	105	115	130	107	112	146	101	123
September	135	110	113	131	119	112	143	87	115
October	134	102	113	129	97	110	143	116	118
November	132	95	111	127	94	110	141	98	115
December	130	100	111	125	96	107	140	111	120
July-Sept. 1974 (av.)	135	104	115	131	106	114	143	99	117
Oct.-December 1974 (av.)	130	99	112	125	95	109	140	109	118
Percentage change (b)	−3.5	−4.5	−2.5	−4.5	−10.5	−4.0	−2.0	10.5	—

(a) All figures are provisional.
(b) For orders on hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

the level in September. The fall was entirely in the home market where the trend of new orders was 8 per cent lower in December than it was in September. Export orders were 1½ per cent higher over the same period reversing the recent downward trend but remain at levels well below export sales. With home new orders also lower than sales, total order books have shortened by 3 per cent. Orders-on-hand for both home and export markets have tended to decrease, by 2½ and 3½ per cent respectively, in the period September to December.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Enquiry relating to December 1974. The response rate of 85 per cent to the inquiry for December is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for September, October and November response rates for these months were 93, 88, 88 per cent respectively.

Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders) is obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £1.40 per annum. Volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for each of the three SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX (mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering respectively).

Motor vehicle output in February

Output of both passenger cars and commercial vehicles in February was marginally higher than in January before allowing for the seasonal pattern. In recent months the trends of car and commercial vehicle production have shown little change.

In the four weeks to February 22, car output at 127,858 units (31,964 per week) was 3 per cent higher than the rate of production a year earlier, when output in February 1974 continued to be restrained by the power emergency and the 'three day week'. Commercial vehicle production at 35,369 units (8,842 per week) was 29 per cent above the depressed level of output in February 1974.

(The comments which follow are based on the seasonally adjusted figures Table 2.)

Cars

After allowing for seasonal changes, car output in February decreased to 121,000 units, which was 8 per cent below the January level and 5 per cent lower than the average monthly output in 1974 as a whole. Some short-time working in the industry probably contributed to the decrease. There was greater emphasis on production for the home market, which increased by 9 per cent, while export production fell sharply.

Comparing the most recent three months (December to February) with the preceding three, output of passenger cars rose by 4 per cent. However, this comparison includes in the earlier period an extremely low figure for September, which was affected by industrial disputes. In comparison with the rate of output in the fourth quarter of last

TABLE 1 Recorded production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and un-assembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery operated road vehicles are excluded.
Production for export may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

		Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
	No. of weeks	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1967	52	988,273	563,740	1,552,013	29,846	245,692	139,414	385,106	7,406
1968	52	1,013,163	802,773	1,815,936	34,922	259,331	149,855	409,186	7,869
1969	53	892,758	824,315	1,717,073	32,398	272,998	192,778	465,776	8,788
1970	52	918,109	722,857	1,640,966	31,557	267,407	190,125	457,532	8,799
1971	52	1,027,462	714,478	1,741,940	33,499	268,278	187,928	456,206	8,773
1972	52	1,307,881	613,430	1,921,311	36,948	272,649	135,470	408,119	7,848
1973	52	1,142,216	605,105	1,747,321	33,602	257,574	159,049	416,623	8,012
1974	52	937,932	596,187	1,534,119	29,502	232,373	170,193	402,566	7,742
1975	52								
1974 1st quarter	13	237,232	150,688	387,920	29,840	52,641	36,845	89,486	6,884
2nd quarter	13	275,355	164,041	439,396	33,800	63,122	46,063	109,185	8,399
3rd quarter	13	185,497	121,121	306,618	23,586	50,233	39,800	90,033	6,926
4th quarter	13	239,848	160,337	400,185	30,783	66,377	47,485	113,862	8,759
1975 1st quarter	13								
2nd quarter	13								
3rd quarter	13								
4th quarter	13								
1974 January	4	61,781	37,628	99,409	24,852	13,989	9,595	23,584	5,896
February	4	73,721	50,721	124,442	31,110	16,048	11,428	27,476	6,869
March	5	101,730	62,339	164,069	32,814	22,604	15,822	38,426	7,685
April	4	74,411	40,917	115,328	28,832	18,881	12,913	31,794	7,948
May	4	99,873	58,240	158,113	39,528	20,614	15,513	36,127	9,032
June	5	101,071	64,884	165,955	33,191	23,627	17,637	41,264	8,253
July	4	56,304	37,405	93,709	23,427	14,978	12,841	27,819	6,955
August	4	66,368	46,662	113,030	28,258	14,701	10,495	25,196	6,299
September	5	62,825	37,054	99,879	19,976	20,554	16,464	37,018	7,404
October	4	73,584	49,228	122,812	30,703	20,846	14,332	35,178	8,794
November	4	84,742	55,632	140,374	35,094	22,364	16,125	38,489	9,622
December	5	81,522	55,477	136,999	27,400	23,167	17,028	40,195	8,039
1975 January	4	79,301	46,278	125,579	31,395	19,997	14,429	34,426	8,606
February	4	84,828	43,032	127,858	31,964	19,752	15,617	35,369	8,842
March	5								
April	4								
May	4								
June	5								
July	4								
August	4								
September	5								
October	4								
November	4								
December	5								

year, average monthly production in January and February has decreased by 3 per cent.

Commercial vehicles

Production in February of commercial vehicles at 36,100 units, fell by 8 per cent from the high level achieved in January, but continued higher than all but two months (July and August) of last year. It remained 8 per cent more than the average monthly rate in 1974, and although export production fell a little, this continued to account for about 44 per cent of all commercial vehicles produced.

Comparing the level of output in December-February with that in the preceding three months, production rose by 8 per cent, with similar rates of increase for both home and export deliveries.

TABLE 2 Production – seasonally adjusted

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and in the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

MONTHLY AVERAGE — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1967	82	47	129	20.5	11.6	32.1
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	14.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975						
1974 1st quarter	69	42	111	16.6	11.7	28.3
2nd quarter	85	47	132	19.6	14.2	33.8
3rd quarter	83	55	138	21.3	16.2	37.5
4th quarter	76	54	130	19.8	14.7	34.5
1975 1st quarter						
2nd quarter						
3rd quarter						
4th quarter						
1974 January	56	44	100	15.2	12.3	27.5
February	70	36	106	16.2	11.0	27.2
March	80	46	126	18.5	11.7	30.2
April	79	32	111	19.9	13.8	33.7
May	93	56	149	21.3	14.5	35.8
June	81	55	136	17.7	14.2	31.9
July	97	66	163	22.0	16.7	38.7
August	88	61	149	22.1	16.8	38.9
September	64	37	101	19.8	15.1	34.9
October	72	49	121	18.8	14.0	32.8
November	82	60	142	20.1	15.3	35.4
December	75	53	128	20.8	14.8	35.6
1975 January	78	53	131	21.7	17.4	39.1
February	85	36	121	20.3	15.8	36.1
March						
April						
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Average of:						
Sep.-Nov. 1974	73	48	121	19.6	14.8	34.4
Dec. 1974-Feb. 1975	79	48	127	20.9	16.0	36.9
Percentage change	+9	−2	+4	+7	+8	+8

Regional selective assistance

The table below shows, on a regional basis, the applications received, and offers made, under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 for the month indicated:

JANUARY 1975

	Applications received	Offers made	
Assisted Area	No.	No.	Value (£'000)
Scotland	27	19	1,551
Wales	27	26	1,941
Northern	27	17	1,128
North West	13	26	1,153
Yorkshire/Humberside	14	10	509
South West	3	—	—
East Midlands	15	—	—
West Midlands	—	1	3
Total	126	99	6,285

New companies registered

Below are details of new companies registered in Great Britain during February 1975 showing nominal capital. The figures are exclusive of unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee.

Nominal capital	Total	Public companies	Private companies
Not exceeding £100	2,177	—	2,177
Over £100 but under £1,000	77	—	77
£1,000 but under £10,000	830	—	830
£10,000 but under £50,000	281	—	281
£50,000 but under £100,000	34	—	34
£100,000 but under £1,000,000	38	—	38
£1,000,000 and over	5	—	5
Total number	3,442	—	3,442
	£ thous.	£ thous.	£ thous.
Total amount of nominal capital	22,886	—	22,886

Companies registered in Great Britain in 1974 and 1975

	1974		1975	
	Number	Nominal capital £ thous.	Number	Nominal capital £ thous.
January	4,758	27,824	3,648	18,631
February	2,870	81,582	3,442	22,886
March	3,393	21,763		
April	3,679	50,557		
May	3,878	36,111		
June	3,329	29,037		
July	3,730	32,961		
August	3,274	37,822		
September	3,214	36,037		
October	3,481	25,421		
November	3,115	36,422		
December	3,039	21,298		
Total	41,760	436,835		

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news.

Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in April

This notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in April. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date	Series	Method of release*	Source
April			
2 Wed.	United Kingdom official reserves (Mar.)	PN	Treasury
	Capital issues and redemptions (Mar.)	PN	Bank of England
4 Fri.	Capital expenditure by the manufacturing distributive, and service industries (4th qtr. – rev.)	Trade and Industry	Department of Industry
	Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (4th qtr. – rev.)		
7 Mon.	Housing starts and completions (Feb. – prov.)	PN	Department of Environment
	House renovation grants approved (Feb. – prov.)		
8 Tues.	Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (Mar.)	London Gazette	Treasury
	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (Feb.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Retail trade (Feb. – final)		
	Provisional figures of vehicle production and estimates of new car registrations (Mar. prov.)		
9 Wed.	London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-Mar.)	PN	CLCB
	UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets and reserve ratios (mid-Mar.)	PN	Bank of England
	National Income and Expenditure (4th qtr. and year 1974)	PN	CSO
11 Fri.	Crude steel production (Mar.)	PN	BSC/ BISPA
	Building Societies' receipts and loans (Mar.)	PN	BSA
14 Mon.	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures incorporating the import and export unit value and volume index numbers and terms of trade (Mar.)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
	Turnover of the catering trades (Feb.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Wholesale price index numbers (Mar.)	PN	Department of Industry
15 Tues.	Index of industrial production (Feb.)	PN	CSO
16 Wed.	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (end-Mar.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Monthly index of average earnings (Feb.)		
17 Thurs.	Consumers' expenditure (1st qtr. 1st preliminary estimate)	PN	CSO
18 Fri.	Retail prices index (Mar.)	PN	Department of Employment
20 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (Mar.)	PN	National Savings Committee
21 Mon.	UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-Mar.)	PN	Bank of England
	Central Government borrowing requirement (Feb.)	Financial Statistics	CSO/ Treasury
	Retail trade (Mar. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
22 Tues.	New vehicle registrations (Mar.)	PN	Department of Environment
23 Wed.	Appropriation account of companies (4th qtr.)	PN	CSO
	Net acquisition of financial assets – analysis by sector (4th qtr.)		
	Financial accounts of industrial and commercial company and personal sectors (4th qrt.)		
24 Thurs.	Unemployment (Apr. – prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Unfilled vacancies (Apr. – prov.)		
	Car and commercial vehicle production (Mar. – final)	PN	Department of Industry
25 Fri.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (Jan.)	Trade and Industry	Department of Industry
30 Wed.	Construction – new orders (Feb.)	PN	Department of Environment
	Bricks and cement production (Mar.)	PN	Department of Environment

* PN = Press Notice.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 21 March 1975

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Something Of A Miracle	BR/E 38006/22/3/80	20	19 March	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Anthony Gilkison Associates Ltd.
Two Man Made Wonders	BR/E 38007/22/3/80	25	19 March	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Global Films Ltd. and Queensway Promotions Ltd.
Review No. 7 (28th Year)	BR/E 38008/22/3/80	10	19 March	Data Film Distributors Ltd.	National Coal Board
Freelance	BR/E 38016/22/3/80	81	20 March	Butcher's Film Distributors Ltd.	Freelance Films Ltd.
Movietone News 2389	BR/E 37819/22/3/80	8	21 March	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
Knickers Ahoy	EC 38010/22/3/80	86	19 March	Border Film Productions (London) Ltd.	Malory-Film Produktion GmbH, Munich and Cinemar-Film, Rome
Abyss	EC 38011/22/3/80	18	19 March	Contemporary Films Ltd.	Ceres Films, Neuilly
Sex Crazy	EC 38012/22/3/80	87	19 March	Border Film Productions (London) Ltd	Cetelci, Brussels and Les Films de Marc, France
			FOREIGN		
Escape To Witch Mountain	F 37995	97	17 March	Walt Disney Productions Ltd.	Walt Disney Productions, California
Earth Is A Sinful Song	F 37996	108	17 March	Contemporary Films Ltd.	Jorn Donner Productions, Helsinki
Naughty Nurses	F 37997	85	17 March	Target International Pictures Ltd.	Golden Star Production Co. Inc., California
Flesh Gordon	F 37998	84	17 March	Variety Film Distributors Ltd.	Graffitti Productions, California
Fist Of Shao Lin	F 37999	89	17 March	Transit Films Ltd.	Hong Kong Alpha Motion Picture Co., Hong Kong
A. Return Of The Dragon					
B. Infernal Street	F 38000	88	17 March	Transit Films Ltd.	IFD Films and Arts Ltd., Hong Kong
Buster and Billie	F 38001	100	18 March	Columbia Warner Distributors Ltd.	Ted Mann Productions Inc., California
Funny Lady	F 38002	137	19 March	Columbia Warner Distributors Ltd.	Rastar Productions Inc., California
Prince Igor	F 38003	110	19 March	Brian Jackson Films Ltd.	Lenfilm, USSR
Battle Of Kerychenez	F 38004	10	19 March	Brian Jackson Films Ltd.	Soyuomultt Films, USSR
Ballerina On A Ship	F 38005	20	19 March	Brian Jackson Films Ltd.	Soyuomultt Films, USSR
Fist Of Justice	F 38009	83	19 March	Transit Films Ltd.	Hong Kong Alpha Motion Picture Co., Hong Kong
Women In Revolt	F 37986	98	20 March	Vaughan Films Ltd.	Andy Warhol Productions Inc., New York
Earthquake	F 38013	123	20 March	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Universal Pictures, California
Your Three Minutes Are Up	F 38014	92	20 March	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	The Minutes Co., California
The Blue Knight	F 38015	96	20 March	Butcher's Film Distributors Ltd.	Lorimar International A Disc, California
My Pleasure Is My Business	F 38018	90	20 March	Miracle Films Ltd.	August Film Productions Ltd., Toronto

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	28 Feb. 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	21 Mar. 1975
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	20 Feb. 1975
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	7 Mar. 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	21 Mar. 1975
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	6 Feb. 1975
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	20 Feb. 1975
liquidity (Q)	14 Mar. 1975
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	This week
N. Ireland (M)	7 Mar. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
EEC economic indicators	This week
Energy trends (M)	7 Mar. 1975
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	This week
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	14 Mar. 1975
cinema admissions and takings (M)	6 Feb. 1975
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registrations of films (A)	6 Feb. 1975
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	5 Sept. 1974
household consumption (Q)	14 Mar. 1975
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	7 Mar. 1975
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	14 Mar. 1975
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	This week
Hire-purchase business (M)	14 Mar. 1975
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	This week
N. Ireland index (M)	This week
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	30 Jan. 1975
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	14 Mar. 1975
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	7 Mar. 1975
production (M)	This week
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	7 Mar. 1975
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	This week
estimated figures (M)	14 Mar. 1975
motor trade turnover (Q)	20 Feb. 1975
Office development permits (Q)	31 Oct. 1974
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	27 June 1974
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	21 Mar. 1975
value: analysis of trends (Q)	23 Jan. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Regional selective assistance (M)	This week
Retail prices index (M)	This week
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	14 Mar. 1975
provisional figures (M)	21 Mar. 1975
sales, N. Ireland (M)	14 Mar. 1975
stocks (M)	This week
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	27 June 1974
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	20 Feb. 1975
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' (Q)	7 Mar. 1975
retail (M)	This week
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	21 Nov. 1974
carpet sales (M)	7 Mar. 1975
cotton industry production (M)	25 Feb. 1975
hosiery production (M)	21 Mar. 1975
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	20 Feb. 1975
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	This week
wool exports (Q)	25 Feb. 1975
wool output (M)	25 Feb. 1975
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	14 Mar. 1975
overseas travel and tourism (A)	7 Mar. 1975
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	21 Mar. 1975

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	2 Jan. 1975
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	21 Mar. 1975
ECGD local offices	14 Mar. 1975
Guide to Departments	7 Mar. 1975
Official Receivers' offices	21 Mar. 1975
Programme of trade promotions	16 Jan. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

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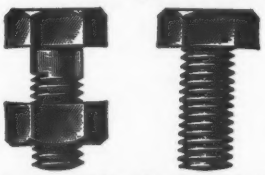

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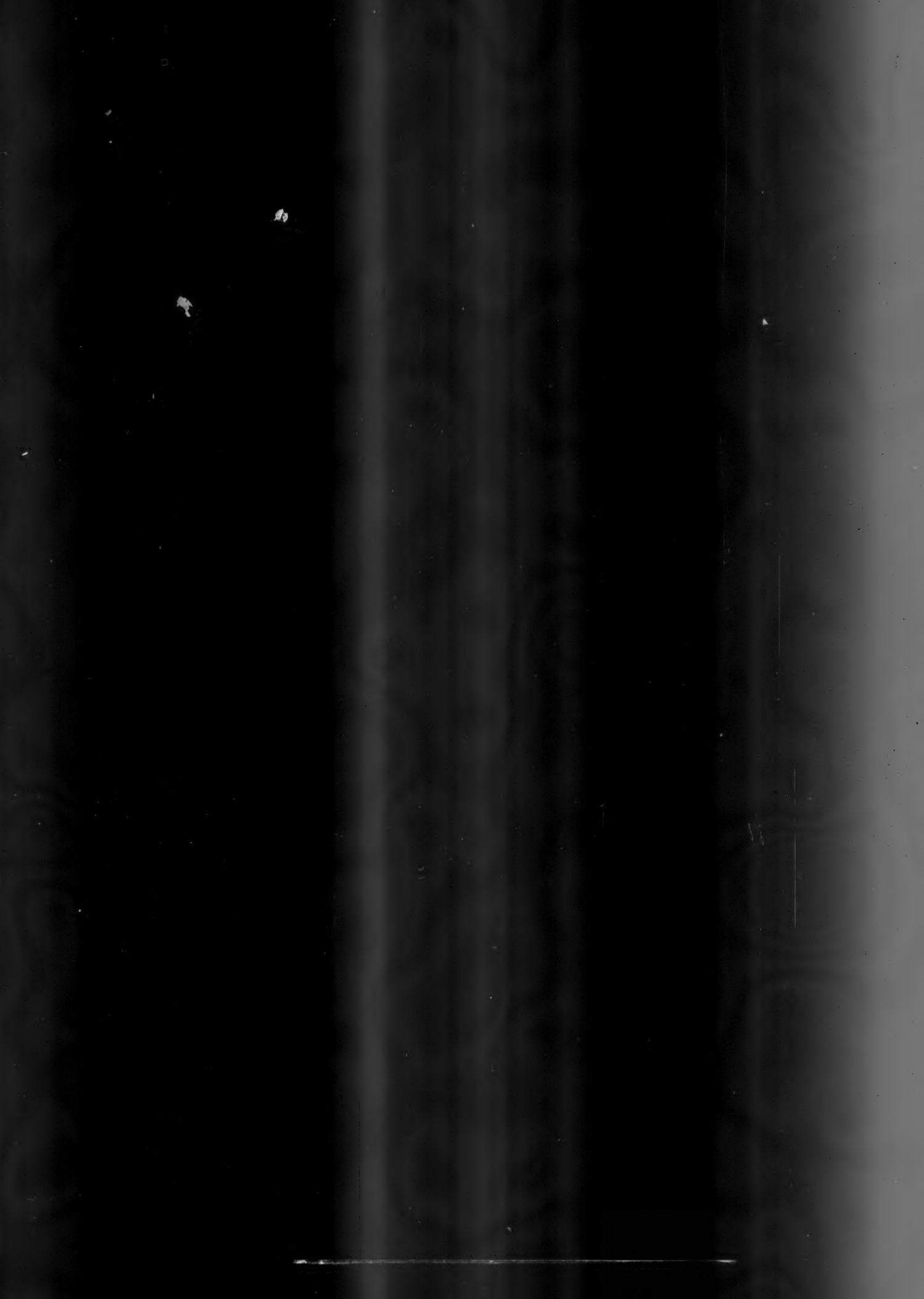
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